The lowdown on blow

New study shows cocaine use quickens the progression of HIV disease.

page 12

BSA lowers the boom Scouts' official anti-gay policy could silence debate.

page 13



Dancing queens Queer Jitterbugs and same-sex ballroom dancing. see Arts section



Vol. 32 • No. 8 • 21 February 2002

Serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender communities since 1971

Powell backs condoms

by Bob Roehr

ondoms were a flash point of Secretary of State Colin Pow-ell's February 14 appearance on Be Heard, a program on MTV where young people in six studio audiences around the world posed questions to Powell.

"A young Catholic woman" in Milan asked about the about the church's ban on condoms in the context of AIDS.

Powell said that he respect-ed the views of the pope, "But in my own judg-



in my own judg-ment, condoms are the way to prevent infection and, therefore, I not only support their üse, I encourage their use among people who are sexually active and need to protect them-

He noted that AIDS was spreading throughout much of the world and added, "It is important that the whole added, "It is important that the whole international community come together, speak candidly about it, forget abut taboos, forget about conservative ideas with respect to what you should tell young people.

"It's the lives of young people that are put at risk by unsafe sex. And, therefore, protect yourselves," advised Powell.

The Human Rights Campaign said it was "encouraged" by Powell's comments.

ments.

"Colin Powell should be applauded for his remarks that echo the sound advice of most leading medical experts," said Winnie Stachelberg, HRC's political director. "When used properly, condoms are an effective way of limiting the spread of HIV and saving lives. We hope others in the Bush administration follow Powell's bold example and advocate for comprehensive HIV/AIDS programs, including prevention."

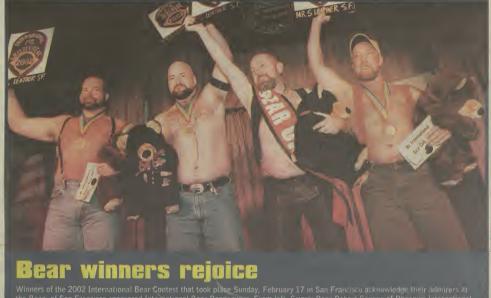
bold example and advocate for comprehensive HIV/AIDS programs, including prevention."

Predictably, the knees of social conservatives in the U.S. couldn't jerk fast enough to condemn Powell's remarks, declare him ignorant, and push abstinence as the only mantra that should be spoken.

"He is talking about a subject he doesn't understand. He clearly doesn't understand the science regarding condom efficacy," asserted James Dobson, head of Focus on the Family.

"Secretary Powell's remarks are reckless and irresponsible," said Ken Connor, president of the Family Research Council. "President Bush should repudiate Secretary Powell's comments and publicly exhort him for his irresponsible remarks."

The White House demurred. Spokesman Air Fleischer said that Powell "limited his answer to people who are sexually active" and thus was consistent with administration policy. ▼



adencies rec

by Matthew S. Bajko

alentine's Day brought some tough love for San Francisco AIDS agencies and officials. The cantankerous cupid came in the form of a report released by a conservative taxpayers' group attacking numerous AIDS agencies for al-

attacking numerous AIDS agencies for allegedly mismanaging public funds. The report from Citizens Against Government Waste attempts to package missives from two radical ACT UP groups and AIDS activist Michael Petrelis into an alarming exposé aimed at reducing the amount of federal funding HIV prevention programs receive. "Many prevention programs actually promote risky behavior, and are using taxpayer dollars to do so," writes Kerrie Rezac in the report titled, "AIDS Programs: An Epidemic of Waste."

Most of the report's arrows skewering AIDS agencies for misspending funds are aimed directly at five Bay Area agencies. The San Francisco AIDS Foundation received criticism for sponsoring "Sex on the Net, 2001: A Sexual Odyssey" last year while at the same time health officials warned Internet chat rooms were spreading sexually transmitted diseases.

The Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center

The Asian Pacific Islander Wellness Center is listed for sponsoring the first Mr. and Ms. UTOPIA pageant whose flier noted the event was "partially funded by the CDC."

The Stop AIDS Project is used several times as an example of alleged wasteful spending, once for its upcoming program "GUY-WATCH: Blow by Blow." According to the report, the advertisement for the seminar reads, in part: "What tricks do you want to share to make your man tremble with delight?"

Positive Force received mention for hold-

Positive Force received mention for holding a "Poz Prom" and for offering "flirting

classes and, last July, host(ing) a workshop on how to have anal intercourse if you suffer from diarrhea."

from diarrhea."
Also, the report slams the University of California, San Francisco's AIDS Health Project for sponsoring HIV bowling nights and daytime cruises of San Francisco Bay.

Officials for the agencies dismissed the report as being inaccurate and outdated. They cautioned the report's real intention is not to save taxpayer money but to derail effective

HIV prevention programs.

"The report is a red herring. A few Re-

page 17 ▶

Bay Area Reporter endorsements

STATE OFFICERS

Governor: Gray Davis
Lt. Governor: Cruz Bustamante
Secretary of State: Kevin Shelley
Attorney General: Bill Lockyer
Controller: Steve Westly
Treasurer: Phil Angelides
Insurance Commissioner:
John Garamendi
Superintendent of Public Instruction:
Jack O Connell

Jack 0 Connell
1st District Board of Equalization:
Carole Migden

District 8: Jackie Speier

STATE SENATE

STATE ASSEMBLY

District 12: No endorsement District 13: Mark Leno

District 14: Loni Hancock
District 27 (Santa Cruz): John Laird
District 80 (Palm Springs): Greg Pettis

JUDGES-SF SUPERIOR COURT

Court Office 3: No endorsement Court Office 10: Gail Dekreon

SF OFFICIALS

Public Defender: Kimiko Burton Assessor/Recorder: Doris Ward

CONGRESS

CONGRESS
District 6: Lynn Woolsey
District 7: George Miller
District 8: Nancy Pelosi
District 9: Barbara Lee
District 10: Ellen Tauscher
District 12: Tom Lantos
District 14: Anna Eshoo
District 15: Mike Honda

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITIONS

CALIFORNIA PROPOSITIONS
40 Clean Water, Air, Safe
Neighborhood Parks: YES
41 Voting Modernization Act of 2002: YES
42 Transportation Funding: NO
43 Right to Have Vote Counted: YES
44 Chiropractors
Unprofessional Conduct: YES
45 Extending Legislative Term Limits: YES

SF PROPOSITIONS

A Instant Runoff: NO
B Cost of Living Benefits: YES
C Non US Citizen Commission
Participation: YES
D Appt. to Planning, Appeals Boards: NO
E Domestic Partner Benefits: YES
City Oversight of Bond Expenditures: NO
G Outdoor Commercial Advertising: YES

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A Fairy Tale (ch. 1)

Once upon a time there were two bitter old queens, viciously fighting for control of the land. These queens and their kingdoms also harbored a secret. That secret was that there happened to be a beautiful princess among the people, a better leader, who was running her own political campaign for a different office. Everyone was amazed at how strong her campaign was going. The beautiful princess had many friends and knew the people of the land would never turn their backs on her, so she called out to them:

On March 5th, vote for

Jim Rodriguez / Assessor

For more information, check out the insert in this weeks issue of Frontiers Magazine, or log onto:

http://www.sf-pt.com

Tenderloin HIV testing program faces questions over incentives

by Matthew S. Bajko

ot only can anyone walk into the Tenderloin AIDS Resource Center and request an HIV test, they are paid \$10 as an incentive to come back and receive their results.

While the agency defends the cash incentive as good public health policy, it has resulted in the program becoming so successful that TARC has had to ask the city for two supplemental funding in-creases to cover the costs of the program. Those cash infusions to-taled \$66,720 in additional income for the agency during fiscal

come for the agency during fiscal year 2001.

Now, TARC is once again turning to the city for help. In January the agency announced that if it did not find an additional \$45,000 in bridge funding, it would have to suspend the HIV testing pro-

gram until summer.

After an appeal to the public for donations did not materialize into a saving grace for the agency's testing service, the city's Department of Public Health is once again covering the agency's ex-

While an exact amount has yet to be finalized, department officials expect to cover the agency's entire budget shortfall. However, it has prompted the department to question TARC's use of cash incentives to entice people in for

testing.
"Part of what is going on is they have made the decision to give incentives to people for tak-ing the test and that has caused them to spend their funds," said of HIV prevention. "You have to look at the management of the program at some point and see whether everyone is a repeat

While he defends the testing program as being needed, Tierney also said his department wants to ensure TARC stays within its bud-get and is providing tests to new

get and is providing to the people.

"It is a good program and we do want to help, but it is going to be a two-prong approach," said Tierney. "They are reaching a community with great need, and we want them to continue to do that work so they will not have to that work so they will not have to stop any services from here to July

Paul Harkin, TARC's HIV prevention program manager, defended the cash incentives and

fended the cash incentives and said the agency does monitor who is coming in to get tested.

"You are only allowed to get \$10 again," Harkin explained. "We get 175 people a month who may not get tested otherwise."

Calling it a classic example of a class issue, Harkin said most of the people who get tested at TARC

the people who get tested at TARC do not have access to healthcare

and need the agency's services.
"A lot of these people who we see are homeless," he said. "The money equals one less trick they'll turn to get a rock [of crack] and that is one less instance of expo-

TARC is the second AIDS service organization in the city to turn to the public – and the gov-ernment – for help. In January,

TARC's Paul Harkin

Positive Resource Center also had to appeal to the public due to its losing a large government grant last year. PRC is also looking to the state and city for additional

funding sources.

But unlike PRC's problems,
TARC did not lose a grant. In fact, the agency's testing service received an increase in funding from \$293,047 in 2001 to \$478,226 in 2002 – and will become fully funded by July.

The problem stems from how the agency thought it would re-ceive funding for its Community Partners Peer Education Project. Started in March 2001, the community partners project provides testing and counseling services to an average of 174 high-risk per-sons each month. From March through November 2001, TARC's prevention staff provided risk assessment counseling and testing to 1,418 people, and 1,393, or 98 ercent, returned for their test re-

Of those, 116 tested positive for HIV antibodies, representing

page 11 ▶

'Faux Fur Fashion Show' Friday night

by Katie Szymanski

t's going to be outrageous

So said an excited Mason Jeffrys of Dolores Street Community Services, who has already assembled his outfit.

On Friday night, February 22, DSCS, along with the Maitri Hos-pice, Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center, and Pets and information Center, and rets
Are Wonderful Support, will host
a "Faux Fur Fashion Show" at the
Castro dance club the Cafe.
The evening will include, ac-

cording to organizers, "a daring and trashy" runway show featuring models of all kinds – from muscle boys to women to dragsters. Fash-ions have been donated by the very trendy Retro Fit and Shauplatz thrift stores, and the pieces will be auctioned off to guests at the end

of the performance.

"We've got some really nice stuff: vests, hats, and jackets of all sizes," said Jeffrys. "I never was a faux fur person but you should see my ensemble. I'm getting very into it."

Doors open at 7 p.m., and the fashion show, emceed by Steven LeMay, goes from 8-9 p.m. The silent auction follows. It's a great opportunity to see some beautiful bodies, and an even better oppor-tunity to score some leopard-print

The Cafe is located at 2367



Models in faux fur are ready for Friday's benefit.

Market Street. The cost of the event is \$10-\$15 sliding scale, and tickets are available at the door. All proceeds benefit DSCS, the only adult shelter provider in the Mission and Castro; Maitri, a 15-bed residence for people with AIDS; LYRIC, the queer youth resource center; and PAWS, which provides pet-related services to people with AIDS and other debilitating ill-

For more information, call (415)282-6209, ext. 22. ▼

NOE VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB **PC** March 5 Election Endorsements

Want to vote for progressive Democrats? Take the NVDC slate to the polls!

Federal & State Offices

U.S. Representative, District 8 Nancy Pelosi

Governor

NO RECOMMENDATION

Lieutenant Governor Cruz M. Bustamante

State Senate, District 8 Jackie Speier

State Assembly, District 13

Mark Leno



Secretary of State Michela Alioto

Attorney General Bill Lockyer

Treasurer Phil Angelides

State Board of Equalization Carole Migden

Sup't of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell

Democratic County Central Committee

13th Assembly District In ballot order. Vote for up to 12 candidates.

Debra Walker

Wade Crowfoot

Richard Ow

Dave Monks

Richard Allman

Tracy Baxter

Miguel Bustos

Julie Soo

Theresa Sparks

Hunter Stern

Jeff Sheehy

Sharon Johnson

County Offices

Public Defender



Jeff Adachi

Assessor-Recorder



Ron Chun

Superior Court Judge Seat 3



Nancy Davis

Superior Court Judge Seat 10



Local Propositions

▲ Instant Run-off Voting	YES
B City Retirees Cost of Living	YES
C Non-citizens on Commissions	YES
Planning Commission & Board of Appeals Reform	YES
Pomestic Partners Sunvivor Benefits	VEC

	Domestic Partners Survivor Benefits	AF2
F	Bond Oversight Committee	NO RECOMMENDATION

YES **G** Ban on New Billboards

State Pronositions

Otal	c i iopositions	
40	Environmental Protection Bonds	YES
41	Voting Modernization Bonds	YES
42	Fuel Tax Allocation for Highways/Transportation	NO
43	"All Votes Counted" Declaration	NO
44	Regulation of Chiropractors	YES
45	Term Limits Suspension by District Petition	NO

POLITICAL ADVERTISEMENT. PAID FOR BY THE NOE VALLEY DEMOCRATIC CLUB, FPPC ID# 963103.





Marjorie Knoller's defense attorney Nedra Ruiz down on all fours during opening statements Tuesday.

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og-mauling trial opens

by Ed Walsh

ourtroom observers and legal pundits are voicing mixed opinions about the styles and strategies of the prosecution and defense teams in the Diane Whipple dog-mauling case. But if there is one unanimous opinion, it is that the trial, expect-ed to conclude in April, will be

anything but routine.

On Tuesday, February 19, opening statements in a downtown Los Angeles courtroom were punctuated by gruesome autopsy photographs and extreme courtroom theatrics. The trial was moved to Los Angeles because of extensive pretrial publicity in the

Bay Area.

Lead prosecutor Jim Hammer began by sequentially laying out began by sequentially laying out his case to the jury of seven men and five women. He told jurors that the deadly January 26, 2001, hallway attack on Whipple was the direct result of the dogs' married caretakers, Marjorie Knoller and Robert Noel, failing to do anything to mitigate the danger the dogs posed to people.

Hammer spoke for about 90 minutes. Knoller's attorney, Nedra Ruiz, followed with a statement that lasted twice as long. Ruiz pas-

that lasted twice as long. Ruiz pasthat hasted twice as long. Rulz pas-sionately and at times tearfully ar-gued that Knoller heroically tried to save Whipple's life. At one point Ruiz startled court observers by getting down on her hands and to stop the mauling by putting her body between her dog and Whip-

Noel's lawyer, Bruce Hotchkiss, spoke for less than 15 minutes, telling jurors that his client is in-nocent because he wasn't with the nocent because he wasn't with the dogs at the time of the attack. Hotchkiss also argued that Noel shouldn't be tainted by the prosecution's allegation of a three-way intimate relationship between Noel and Knoller and the couple's lifer prisoner adopted son, Paul Schneider. Hotchkiss said Noel should be the found a will him to the found and the couple's life prisoner adopted son, Paul Schneider. Hotchkiss said Noel should be found as will him to the found as will have the found should not be found guilty just because he has an "unconvention-

Knoller, 46, was with her two page 16 ▶

Smuggling alleged The Trusted Source in recent pot busts Automotive Needs.

by Liz Highleyman

ew information has come to light about last week's federal Drug Enforcement Administration raids of Bay Area medical cannabis providers.

On Tuesday, February 5, DEA agents dynamited the door of the Sixth Street Harm Reduction Center at 52 Sixth Street near Market Street. An estimated 600 marijuana plants, along with docardinana plants, al marijuana plants, along with doc-uments and computer equipment, were seized and the club's executive director, Richard Watts, was

The DEA also arrested author The DEA also arrested author and cannabis cultivation expert Ed Rosenthal in a dawn raid at his home in Oakland; Rosenthal post-ed bail and was released later in

The same morning, Ken Hayes, who formerly managed the 6th Street dispensary, was arrested near Vancouver, Canada. Last March, Hayes and a co-defendant March, Hayes and a co-defendant were acquitted of charges of marijuana cultivation and sales in Sonoma County. Hayes's attorney William Panzer said that Hayes plans to ask the Canadian government for political refugee status. In a separate case, the DEA also arrested James Halloran, who was accused of growing an estimated 1,000 cannabis plants in an aban-

doned movie theater; Halloran has no known connection to the other three men.

The arrests happened on the same day as a speech by drug czar Asa Hutchinson at the Commonwealth Club. Hutchinson told the skeptical audience that medical marijuana users were not a feder-al priority, and implied that the day's arrests were connected with

day's arrests were connected with large amounts of drugs. According to DEA spokesman Richard Meyer, the arrests were linked to "smuggling and traffick-ing of marijuana and also some possible money laundering. Meyer said the timing of the ar rests and Hutchinson's speech were coincidental, and said the raids were the result of an ongo-ing investigation into an alleged British Columbia to San Francisco smuggling operation; the investigation involved the U.S. Customs Service and the Internal Revenue

Materials provided to defense attorneys in the case and pub-lished material on a Web site revealed that an informant from an other San Francisco medical cannabis dispensary had provided information to the DEA related to the ongoing investigation that led to last week's arrests. According to local sources and the story on DCRNet.org, the informant was later revealed to be Father Nazarene, who formerly oversaw the San Francisco Patients' Re-source Center on Divisadero Street. Father Nazarene apparent-ly was concerned that some peo-ple connected to certain medical marijuana clubs were hiding be-hind Proposition 215 in an effort

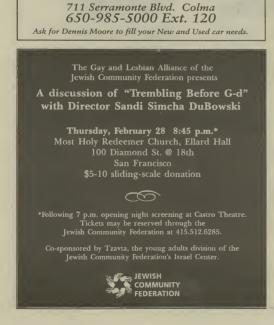
to make money.

SFPRC officials confirmed the information.

"We are as shocked and dismayed as anyone," said SFPRC Executive Director Wayne Justmann.
"As patients, we thought this person was here to help us." Justmann son was here to help us." Justmann said that all of Father Nazarene's responsibilities with the center had been "immediately severed," and that the club is now undergoing a reorganization that will include bringing in political and public health leaders.

Fears that last week's raids were

Fears that last week's raids were Fears that last week's raids were the start of an all-out attack on Bay Area medical cannabis dispensaries appear to be unfounded, since no other local medical marijuana providers have since been targeted. "This was not as sweeping as 1 had at first feared," said Dale Gieringer of the California chapter of the National Organization to Reform Marijuana Laws, who nevertheless noted that Laws, who nevertheless noted that more arrests may be forthcoming. "This is not an escalation, but a continuation of their war on medical marijuana."



WORKING TOGETHER FOR THE FUTURE OF DISTRICT 6

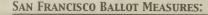
Dear Neighbor,

It is not only recently that District 6 has been an integral part of some of San Francisco's most heated issues and contentious debates. We once again find our neighborhood home to the most pressing issues of the day – homelessness, crime, economic hardship – which only underscores the necessity to make our voices heard in the upcoming election.

For many years, the District 6 Democrats have supported the most qualified and hardworking candidates to fight for the needs of our neighbors and businesses. As the election approaches and times have gotten tough, the time is now for us to work together for the future of District 6.

The District 6 Democrats urge you to take the attached recommendations with you to the polls when you vote this March 5th.

Warmest Regards, Fredrick Hobson President



NO on A: Instant Runoff Voting Confusing, bad idea, opens the door to fraud.

YES on B: Cost of Living Benefits For hardworking City Employees.

YES on C: Non-US Citizen Commission Participation Everyone deserves a voice.

NO on D: Planning Commission & Board of Appeals

YES on E: Domestic Partner Benefits

YES on F: Citizen Bond Oversight

YES on G: Outdoor Commercial Advertising Keep San Francisco beautiful.

STATE PROPOSITIONS:

YES on Prop 40: Clean Water & Air, Safe Neighborhood Parks & Coastal Protection

YES on Prop 41: Voting Modernization

YES on Prop 42: Transportation Congestion Improvement Act

YES on Prop 43: Right to Have Your Vote Counted

YES on Prop 44: Chiropractors and Unprofessional Conduct

YES on Prop 45: Local Voter Petitions for Term Limit Extensions



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State Assembly District 13

- Steve Phillips; Results-oriented leader who believes that bold vision can make a difference in our communities.



Superior Court District 3
- Nancy Davis



Superior Court District 10
- Sean Connolly



Assessor Recorder – Doris Ward; Results not rhetoric.



Public Defender – Kimiko Burton; Strong and effective advocate for civil rights and integrity in our criminal justice system.

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Tracy Baxter, Neighborhood Parks Advocate



Leslie Katz, Member, DCCC



Gregory Chew, Community Relations Director



Esther Lee, Legislative Aide



Dona Crowder, Housing Expert



Jim Mathias, Public Affairs Advocate



Rebecca Delgado-Rottman, Chair Filipino Aids Task Force



Toye Moses, Mental Health Educator



Frederick Hobson, Public Health Advocate

Public Affairs Advocate

Sharon Johnson,



Julie Soo, Public Policy Advocate



Hunter Stern, Labor Union Representative



VOTE MARCH 5, 2002

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To find the location of your polling place, please call the Department of Elections at (415)554-4375

BAY A REA REPORTER

Volume 32, Number 8 21 February 2002

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Leno's the one for Assembly

f the candidates seeking the Democratic nomination for the 13th Assembly District, only one stands out as someone who will be a strong advocate for the progressive character of the district as well as someone who will fight for what's right on issues that will affect the LGBT community and, indeed, all Californians. That person is openly gay San Francisco Su-pervisor Mark Leno, whom we enthusiasti-cally recommend to voters in the March 5 primary.

Because the 13th District is heavily De

mocratic, the winner of the primary is likely to win in November's general election.

In Leno, we see someone who will work tirelessly for the needs of his district in the mold of the current holder of that seat, Assemblywoman Carole Migden. More importantly, Leno brings with him an impecable work ethic that will serve constituents

In past editorials, we have discussed our concerns with rival candidate Harry Britt's poor voting record while he was a supervisor. And we have noted that Leno is un-equivocal in his support for transgender is-

sues, the hallmark of which was his successful battle to extend medical benefits – in-cluding surgery and hormones – to transcluding surgery and hormones – to trans-gender city employees. (The latter became an issue when another paper shame-lessly called into question Leno's commitment to legislation that would help transgenders achieve equality.) While some Britt sup-porters have tried to dismiss his past voting record – or lack of one – past voting record – or lack of one – we firmly stand behind the basic premise that an elected official cannot effect legislative change if he doesn't show up to vote. That said, Leno's record

Editorial since becoming a supervisor has shown that he not only attends meetings and casts votes, but that he also works hard at attempting to push the envelope on any number of issues, sometimes with short-lived results or knowing that he won't win the battle. For example, Leno worked with one of the most progressive supervisors on the board, Chris Daly, in persuading the local Salvation Army chapter to extend benefits to domestic partners of its employees.

ruled by its national headquarters, Leno and Daly nevertheless brought the issue to the public's attention just as the holiday season

public's attention just as the holiday season was under way, realizing that people would soon be seeing the familiar Army bell-ringers on the street.

Another prime example is Leno's persistence in getting the American Red Cross to modify or lift its ban on HIV-negative gay men donating blood. While that effort has so far been unsuccessful, it, too, shows Leno's willingness to push for more than something that he knows will be approved or adopted, as some of his critics tharge.

charge.

Mark Leno will be an assemblyman for all of his district, as his work on energy, the environment, health, and other issues has proven over the years. He will be accessible to his constituents, and he will work on the front-lines to make state policies equal for

On March 5, vote for Mark Leno for As-

B.A.R. Recommendations

State Officers

Governor: Gray Davis Lt. Governor: Cruz Bustamante Secretary of State: Kevin Shelley Attorney General: Bill Lockyer

Controller: Steve Westly Treasurer: Phil Angelides Insurance Commissioner:

John Garamendi Superintendent of Public Instruction: Jack O'Connell

1st District Board of Equalization: Carole Migden

State Senate

District 8: Jackie Speier

State Assembly

District 12: No endorsement District 13: Mark Leno

District 14: Loni Hancock District 27 (Santa Cruz): John Laird District 80 (Palm Springs): Greg Pettis

Judges-SF Superior Court

Court Office 3: No endorsement Court Office 10: Gail Dekreon

SF Officials

Public Defender: Kimiko Burton Assessor/Recorder: Doris Ward

Congress

District 6: Lynn Woolsey District 7: George Miller District 8: Nancy Pelosi

District 9: Barbara Lee
District 10: Ellen Tauscher
District 12: Tom Lantos
District 14: Anna Eshoo
District 15: Mike Honda

STATE PROPOSITIONS

Proposition 40: YES

Clean water, clean air, safe neighborhood parks, and coastal protection.

This bond issue would allow the state to purchase land and make capital improvements along our coastal front. It would also make money available for our cities to improve neighborhoods and urban area parks, making them safe and more pleasant. making them safe and more pleasant. Money would also be available to help cut back on smog and pollution due to gas and diesel emissions. We urge a YES vote.

Proposition 41: YES

Voting Modernization Act of 2002.

This measure was placed on the ballot by our own Kevin Shelley. It is an issue whose time is overdue. Punch ballots and whose time is overque. Punch ballots and their chads are an archaic form of voting. Just look at Florida. Many California com-munities are still using them. The modest bond issue would make money available so that communities could replace many old-fashioned ways of voting. Vote YES on Prop. 41.

Proposition 42: NO

Transportation Funding
This Republican-backed mandate would lock the state's gasoline sales tax into trans-portation uses only, effectively cutting off portation uses only, effectively cutting off funds from a portion of these taxes now used for schools and other needed social services. It would lock the gas taxes into a constitu-tional amendment that decrees that all the money be used for transportation and high-way improvement only. Vote NO on Prop. 42.

Proposition 43: YES

Right to Have Vote Counted
This is a constitutional amendment that is basically an outcome of the Florida debacle of 2000 following the disputed presidential election. We don't know what will happen in the future, but this issue is endorsed by Common Cause and we would like to back them up with an urging to vote YES on Prop. 43.

Proposition 44: YES

Chiropractors Unprofessional Conduct
Most of the chiropractors we know are

honest, hard-working men and women. There are some who are not. Some of them practice insurance scams. This costs us all higher premiums in workmen's compensa-tion as well as other insurance hikes because of these scam artists. This would force the licensing board to pull licenses to practice from these unscrupulous practitioners. This issue is backed by state Senator Jackie Speier and we agree with her. We urge a YES vote on Prop. 44.

Proposition 45: YES

Extending Legislative Term Limits
We have always opposed term limits for political officeholders. While this measure does not overturn them, it is a step in the does not overturn them, it is a step in the right direction. It would extend the terms of office for four (4) more years (two terms for assemblymembers and one more term for state senators). Voter signatures are required to petition the Secretary of State (20 percent of the voters in the last election) to allow a legislator to run again for his or her office. We urge a YES vote on Prop. 45.

SAN FRANCISCO PROPOSITIONS

Proposition A: NO

Instant Runoff

We should try to fix the whole election process before we try something confusing like this. The whole election system is flawed. We should take some clues from our European friends and vote on weekends, or fine people who don't exercise their right to vote.

Proposition B: YES

Cost of Living Benefits

This proposition closes up some of the loopholes in the current retirement system; it

will not require any more money from taxpayers for up to 20 years from now, if even then. This is a fair ballot measure. Vote YES on B.

Proposition C: YES

Non U.S. Citizens Commission Participation The only part of this measure we don't like is the unlikely possibility of having commissioners who are not San Francisco

residents serving on city boards or commissions; but, we firmly believe that non-U.S. citizens have a right to serve on these boards and commissions. What with our large pop-ulation of non-U.S. citizens in San Francisco, they certainly should have the right to help guide these civic boards or commissions. This measure has broad community support. Vote YES on C.

Proposition D: NO

Appointment to the Planning Board and the Appeals Board

Appeals Board

This is just another power grab by the current Board of Supervisors to undermine the current mayor's authority. Why cut the authority of future mayors by a charter change at this time? We just voted for a new city charter and all issues were discussed ad nauseam Don't give the factionalized Board. nauseam. Don't give the factionalized Board of Supervisors any more authority they don't deserve and have not earned. We urge you to leave the status quo. Vote NO on Prop. D.

Proposition E: YES

Domestic Partner Benefits
City workers who retired prior to 1995 do not have domestic partner benefits; those who retired after 1995 do. If workers can establish a domestic partnership for at least one (1) year prior to retiring, they can get survival benefits. This benefit would not cost the city any more money according to the City Comptroller. It's only fair. Vote YES on Prop. E.

Proposition F: NO

Proposition F: NO
City Oversight of Bond Expenditures
Just what the City Treasurer doesn't need
is a group of people bugging her over the
city's myriad bond offerings. If the school
board had been doing its job, the school
bond debacle would not have happened. We
have had no major problems in any other
bond issuances in the past. We don't need another committee overlooking those already
in place to see that bond money is spent
wisely and prudently. Vote NO on Prop. F.

Proposition G: YES

Outdoor Commercial Advertising
This ballot amendment would ban the building of any more billboards in the city.
There are over 1,000 billboards in the city. now, which is more than enough. This proposition would only stop the building of additional billboards within the city limits. We urge a YES vote on Prop. G.

LETTERS

'Major coup' for marshal

'Major coup' for marshal

What an enormous thrill it was to read that Sir Ian

McKellen will be the celebrity grand marshal of this
year's Pride Parade ("SP Pride nabs Ian McKellen for
parade," February 14). This is a major coup, and San
Francisco should be very proud to have him grace our
Pride celebration. He is a wonderful actor and a great
role model for all of us. He richly deserves the Oscar
nomination for his outstanding performance in The
Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring, but win,
lose, or draw on the award itself, it will be wonderful
to see him and cheer him as our parade moves up
Market Street. Congrats to the organizing committee
for this achievement!

Jim Paton

Jim Paton El Cerrito, California

Mailstrom

Others also fought for TGs

Last week Cynthia Laird ("Leno clarifies TG position") quoted me as saying, "Mark Leno is the only politician ever to stand up for transgender rights in San Francisco."

I did make that statement and I was incorrect. I apologize to Caroline Marks, widow of the late state Senator Milton Marks, former Supervisors Barbara Kaufman and Terence Hallinan, and board President Tom Ammiano, all of whom did advocate for transgender rights at some point in their careers. Also, I must not forget the other eight courageous supervisors who stood with Mark Leno passing the historic transgender health care package last year. There's also Willie Brown, who appointed the first transgender commissioners. Thank you Mr. Mayor, All of you have my heartfelt gratitude and that of the entire transgender community.

That said, I stand by my comment that it's laughable for anyone to try to

That said, I stand by my comment that it's laughable for anyone to try to diminish what Mark Leno has done for transgender people. He has been our champion time and time again. To suggest otherwise is either mean-spirited political rhetoric or just plain stupid.

Also, conspicuous by their absence from the list of those who have supported transgender rights are Captage of the standard of the support of the s

those who have supported transgender rights are Carole Migden, John Burton, and Harry Britt. I really don't believe Carole Migden is transphobic as some don't believe Carole Migden is transphobic as some of the alleged comments attributed to her would suggest. Our issues were just never on her radar. Same with John Burton. When Governor Gray Davis went on a "veto transgender legislation rampage" last year, neither Migden nor Burton made à peep. Now there's "progressive" representation in Sacramento! And what did Harry Britt do for transgenders during his stint as a supervisor? Nothing, nada, zippo. If I'm wrong here, somebody correct me

wrong here, somebody correct me.
As long as I'm setting the record straight (excuse the term), where did Tim Redmond and the Guardian come from on this issue? This cornerstone of "progressive" advocacy has never had an interest in our struggle. Why now? Could it merely be to find something about which to criticize Mark Leno? Hey Tim, the TG train has already left the station. Maybe you should try ragging Leno for his stance on affordable housing, the gay youth shelter, solar power, medical cannabis, monster homes, chain stores, or any of the dozen other "progressive" issues you hold so dear to your self-righteous heart.

Just one other thing. Harry, you're a dear man and I believe you to have done a great deal for the LGBT community... in the 1980s. But Harry, the Vietnam War is over. We lost. What are your positions on issues that impact our lives today, in the 21st century?

In these last few days before the election, let's get back to the real issues at hand and stop trying to rewrite Mark Leno's unparalleled record on transgender rights

Questioning agency's mission

The letters section of the B.A.R. is a guilty pleasure. Just when the whole Leno-Britt thing was getting tiresome, the brouhaha at Stop AIDS and its new executive director hits the columns. It is a bit amusing to watch their board member try to charge misogyny as the real reason someone would question the agency's most recent hire. Stop AIDS is trying to have it both ways. They are a group that says it is for and by gay and bisexual men. That is what it claimed during the recent controversy with the feds. That is what its mission statement says. So, the question still remains: If sion statement says. So, the question still remains: If they are really a community group that has as its pri-mary mission to serve a specific community, why are they naming as its leader someone from outside of

You won't get much argument about the commu-nity accomplishments of women from me. Project In-form, SFAF, Larkin Street, and a host of other groups have had women at the helm at one time or another. But those organizations serve multiple communities, including gay and bisexual men. And because they served a wider community, it was appropriate. But when Stop AIDS, whose mission clearly states that it wants to organize the gay and bisexual men's community to support HIV prevention, hires someone

other than a gay or bisexual man to lead that effort, it calls into question the board's commitment to the community it serves. The project has done good work in the past. It will probably do some good work still. But the board needs to revisit its commitment to its

Former Falcon 'star' speaks out

Having read letters critical of the use of Chuck Holmes's name for the new LGBT Community Cen-ter, I'm disgusted. Sure, there were other gay people who are also worthy but should Chuck Holmes be re-

who are also worthy but should Chuck Holmes be rejected because his career and money came from porno (i.e. Falcon Studios)? I say, no.

As an early "star" of Falcon videos (Dean Chasson), I'm still here and proud to say that those initial profits from my work were used by Chuck Holmes to create (20 years later) the largest, most profitable gay porno business today. While others jerked it off, blew it off, or pissed it off in a bar, Chuck was a sober businessman in the best eners. He applied himself in a difnessman in the best sense. He applied himself in a difficult (hard?) business to become #1 and he used his wealth philanthropically to advance not only gay but other worthy causes. I celebrate his life and memory, as we all accept his gifts, and am glad he is honored.
After the early bloom of "flower power" wilted and
"free love" faded, the early 1970s was a time when gay
culture coalesced on the West Coast. Gay porno was
an important part in the emergence of gay culture in San Francisco. "Undignified"? Not

Chuck Holmes.

I remember Chuck fondly as he and his Friend, Jack Default, used to breakfast regularly at Bob's on Polk Street. He was friendly, businesslike, and personified dignity in his own life. He made a successful financial empire and used it to

cessful financial empire and used it to benefit others. I'm proud of him and this honor, and I'm glad that I was part of his early success. Two of my videos (shot in "super 8") are still best sellers for Falcon Studios. I would also like to honor another "undignified" gay businessman (now dead), J. Brian, who ran an honest call boy service out of 814 Mason Street. He made porno, too. I should have

I can't imagine anyone who ever knew these two Tean I imagine anyone who ever knew these two people having anything but praise and kind words for them. They played a role in the gay renaissance that began in the early 1970s. That Chuck Holmes should have lived long enough and, through his business, made such a success that he was able to be a major philanthropist to the gay community is to be commended. Business can make a difference, too. To call the "fruits" of gay porno which benefit so many "undignified" and "unworthy" is just plain prudish.

Jack Dodsor

Center board 'insane'

I read the headline in the January 31 issue, "Center to be named after Falcon Studios founder," and I

was filled with disgust.

It is no wonder that right-wing advocates and the Christian movement consistently criticize and damn the GLBT community when by this action, it justifies their claim that we are all about sex.

I charge the center's board of directors with insanity for naming our community building after a producer of pornography. Is this what we are all about?

So he contributed \$1 million toward the center and no doubt thousands of dollars to other agencies and no doubt thousands of dollars to other agencies to justify his dubious contribution to the LGBT lifestyle. Big deal. What about our little \$5 and \$10 contributions? What do we get for our contributions? Here's what we have: a misguided, elitist board of directors that can only throw \$150 and up benefits, dinners, cocktail parties, and the dubious opportunity to mingle with others of their ilk.

I, for one, will not contribute another dime to the center. When do the norm provies begin showing

center. When do the porno movies begin showing there in "tribute" to their savior Chuck Holmes? Why don't they name it Falcon House? Or, Home of Holmes's Homo Hits? How about Falcon Pac 69693

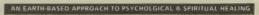
Antonia DeBiase

'Too pure to be real'

was surprised that you printed Steven Keller's hateful character assassination of the late Chuck Holmes [Mailstrom, February 14]. In response, I'd like to say that I am sick and tired

of some of the hypocrites in our community and in our country waving their lace hankies and swooning like the slave-owning southern belles of old. Just too pure to be real. As a clean and sober former drug user, let me assure Mr. Keller that there are more doctors, lawyers, nurses, bus drivers, and others that are active drug users in this world than there are sex workers. Furthermore, it is so Puritanically American of you to denounce sex workers and the sex industry as being bad (or should I say "sinners against God,") because

next page





Rodney Karr, Ph.D.

Shamanic Group Forming

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will host a Community Forum on Substance Use Issues in the Transgender Community on Thursday, Feb. 21 from 6:30 to 8:00 PM at TARC, 187 Golden Gate Ave. in San Francisco.

Miss Major, Patrick Califia-Rice, and Chenoa Blot will be speaking. This is a free event. Come have a snack and share your views.

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Mailstrom

previous page

God knows, the good people of this community never do anything immoral, dishonest, or underhanded. By the way, exactly how did Mr. Holmes lead male models "down the road to nowhere"? Were these men mental incompetents that had/have no responsibility for their individual choices in life? And, none of these men prospered and went on in life to better things after working in movies? (This is a moot question because I know men who did make good money, bought homes/businesses, and are part of the community.) Apparently Mr. Holmes was supposed to be employ-

Apparently Mr. Holmes was supposed to be employee and psychiatrist and parent to his employees who allegedly hit the skids.

It's damn easy to character assassinate someone who's dead. Or should I say, it's damn cowardly. And thank you, Mr. Keller, for being "brave" and pure enough to cast the first stone.

I'd like to say thank you to Chuck Holmes and his friends, lovers, and family for helping give our community something we've needed, especially in light of the terrible darkness that has descended on our community during the last two decades. May your soul munity during the last two decades. May your soul move into the light and live on forever.

A.R. Anderson San Francisco

Prefers Britt

This SF voter would greatly prefer a strong advo-This SI voter would greatly prefer a strong advo-cate who will push a progressive agenda to represent me in Sacramento, such as Harry Britt over Marc Leno [sic]. Even with a less than perfect attendance record, I'd take him any day over Leno, who would be a spineless assemblyman unwilling to aggressively represent our district's interests – even despite his good manners when it comes to attendance. Leno's good manners when it comes to attendance. Leno's middle-of-the-road approach was made perfectly clear in last week's *Bay Guardian*. Leno intends to take a "moderate approach," staying away from issues that are too "radical or controversial." Just how do you do that when you represent San Francisco, where most of what we care about is perceived as controversial by the rest of the state? With such a lack of will to fight for us in Sacramento, perhaps it would be better if Leno was absent for more votes should he be elected.

Sara Shortt San Francisco

Trusts Britt

Trusts Britt

It is with great pride and confidence that I endorse Harry Britt for the state Assembly District 13 seat. While many LGBT political types may want to personalize this race and cause division in our community, for me the choice is simple. I trust Harry Britt. In all of my research on Britt's political life, I found no alignment with machine politics, no connection to corporate influence, and no strong-arm deal making. What I did find was persistence and boldness in

ing. What I did find was persistence and boldness in introducing and passing landmark legislation such as comparable worth – helping women get equal pay for equal work, city funding for AIDS services, the first domestic partners bill, and the creation of the Office

of Citizen Complaints (to name a few).
While other candidates may think their power lies in who owes them favors or who funds their cam-paign, Britt's strength comes from a deep passion for the rights and empowerment of the disadvantaged and underserved. Once in Sacramento, Britt's ego and political future will not steer his course, but will take pointical future will not steer his course, but will take a back seat to the opportunity he sees to bring his political life to full fruition. San Francisco – the last bastion of progressive politics in America – can afford nothing less in the face of a Bush administration that would just as soon see California and the LGBT civil rights movement fall into the Pacific Ocean.

We're fortunate to have a race with qualified LGBT candidates such as Harry Britt, Holly Thier, and Mark Leno. Let's all get behind them wherever they land after this election to make best use of their experience and ambition.

Gary Virginia San Francisco

Britt's 'impressive' attendance

Thanks for revealing that Harry Britt had an impressive 80 percent attendance record as a supervisor, doubtless a better record than many candidates you have endorsed in the past ("Harry Britt missed 21% of board votes," February 7]. With enemies like you, who needs friends?

John Ciraldo San Francisco

Why was Hutchinson here?

Why did San Francisco's elite, rich, and powerful Commonwealth Club members invite Drug Enforce-ment Administration chief Asa Hutchinson to speak about marijuana on February 12?

Isn't the "War on Drugs" just a scam to open the

borders for people who import stuff made in poor countries where they pay their workers next to nothing and pollute freely?

Turning Customs into drug-busters instead of en-forcing protective tariffs kills local jobs by making it profitable to create products overseas without losing

ronmental and civil protections worldwide.

For the Commonwealth Club members to want Customs to stay out of their businesses is natural. Getting Customs to look elsewhere works. But isn't this scapegoating of medical marijuana patients and drug users getting old?

John Entwistle Jr.

Where are you, Bob?

Robert Gallo, that is. Some 20-plus years ago you were quick to "discover" the HIV virus. Now why are you so silent about anthrax? Why is it taking so long to discover this second manmade political virus? I to discover this second manmade political virus? I suppose your reasoning is that because merely five Caucasian heterosexual Americans died there is no hurry for another quick fame. Your discovery of the phantom HIV virus created a multibillion dollar business for the pharmaceutical conglomerates to push their non-working, debilitating "cocktail" drugs without any hesitation of annihilating thousands of gay white and African American citizens who have been used as guinea pigs. Hence my question: Where are you now that we need you? We sure miss you a lot,

San Francisco

[Editor's note: The five people who died of anthrax t year were Caucasian, African American, and

'AIDS is so over'

I recently attended the preliminary hearing for David Pasquarelli and Michael Petrelis, who are being charged with criminal threats and stalking, and received quite an education about AIDS politics in San

Please don't buy into the hype that was initiated by their accusers and has now made its way into the media. These men are not violent and have not threat-

Please remain open-minded and watch for the truth to come out in their pending trial.

AIDS is so over.

David Tworkowski San Diego, California

Remembering a friend

It is with great sadness to read of another special friend. The passing of Gene Blackburn [Obituaries, January 31] reminds me of how important it is to live and let live life. He was a dear, quiet human being.

Marvin-Michel LeGrier II

Youth need to be involved

Youth need to be involved

I am a contract administrator for Ryan White Title
I in Fort Lauderdale and a gay man living with HIV. I
read the column by Ned Howey "Without youth voice
in AIDS fight, ideas won't be heard" [Generation Q,
January 17]. I agree completely with everything that
Mr. Howey said, but there was something of urgent
concern missing from the column – ideas of how to
get youth involved in the struggle. Strategies of how to
reach out to youth – especially gay and minority
youth – to get them to understand that this is their
fight as well. And that they are in as much or more
danger than those of us who lived through the 1970s
and 1980s.

In this area of southeast Florida, we have great difficulty engaging youth. Less than 1 percent of the Ryan White Title I services go to youth when the national figures of infection rates run 4 percent to 6 among them. And since this area consistently outdoes the national averages in HIV, I cannot believe for one minute that we have suddenly found a way to lower the infection rate among our youth – who we cannot even reach. Does Mr. Howey have any suggestions on how to do this?

Robert Gray Fort Lauderdale, Florida

Great column

My compliments on Jim Provenzano's February 7 column "Snow Job." He outdid himself on this one.

Louis Bryan San Francisco

Send letters to the Bay Area Reporter, 395 Ninth Street, San Francisco, CA 94103, or e-mail to BARpaper@aol.com. Letters must be signed and include a daytime phone number for verification. Unsigned letters will not be printed.

Prop. 45 results will affect SF mayor's race

by Wayne Friday

ith the March 5 primary less than two weeks away, few are likely thinking of few are likely thinking of the 2003 San Francisco mayoral contest. But one of the issues to be decided in the upcoming election will likely have a huge effect on who San Franciscans elect to replace termed-out Mayor Willie Brown in November of next year. Proposition 45 would allow

state lawmakers who would otherwise be leaving under term limits an extra four years in office. This could determine whether state Senator **John Burton** would be spend-



State Senator John Burton

ing another term in Sacramento or whether he comes back to San Francisco to run for mayor. Burton's current term doesn't expire until the end of 2004 but many ex-pect him to run for mayor in the event that Proposition 45, which he supports, fails on March 5. Supervisors **Gavin Newsom**

and Tom Ammiano are currently considered the top two candidates to replace Brown next year. To be sure, however, there are numerous others being mentioned for mayor, including former Supervi-sors **Angela Alioto** and **Barbara** sors Angela Alloto and Barbara Kaufman, former City Attorney Louise Renne, businessman Clint Reilly, former Mayor Art Agnos, Police Chief Fred Lau, and possibly one or two of the other supervisors. Should Propo-sition 45 lose on March 5 and Button is forced to leave the state Burton is forced to leave the state Senate at the end of his current term, however, Burton becomes the 800-pound gorilla in the next mayor's race. Newsom, considered to be the current front-runner for mayor, has already publicly stated he would not run for mayor if Burton, an old family friend, were to enter the race. "I would not run against John Burton," Newsom

Current polls are mixed about the fate of Proposition 45, but under the plan, a lawmaker about to be termed out could be placed back on the ballot by obtaining signatures from the number of registered voters equal to 20 per-cent of voters in the district who cent of voters in the district who cast ballots in the previous election. Candidates in either the state Senate or Assembly could then serve up to an additional four years. Supporters of Proposition 45 say the measure would lead to 45 say the measure would lead to more efficient government by re-taining experienced lawmakers and providing more continuity in the Legislature. Opponents claim Proposition 45 is a scam designed to keep the most powerful lawmakers in office and special interests in control in Sacramento.
While lawmakers from both

the Democratic and Republican parties endorse Proposition 45, the Democratic Party has so far been the largest single contributor with nearly \$3 million. Governor with nearly \$3 million. Governor Gray Davis has not taken a position on Proposition 45, though the three major GOP gubernatorial candidates all oppose the plan. The Yes on 45 campaign has also picked up bipartisan statewide support from groups like the League of Women Voters, the Chamber of Comment of the Chamber of the C

the Chamber of Com-merce, and the California Correctional Peace Officers Association.
While many of his

political allies are pri-vately predicting that Burton would a mayoral can-

Proposition 45 fails, the senator himself has neither confirmed nor denied the rumor. Burton did mention to reporters in Sacra-mento recently, however, that if he is forced from his state Senate position at the end of his current rm, he would likely be replaced San Francisco Mayor Willie by San Francisco Mayor Willie Brown – who, as the long-reigning Assembly speaker, was the primary target of the original term limit law. Some political observers in San Francisco aren't so sure that Brown would have an easy time getting elected to the state Senate, however, since it includes not only San Francisco, but all of Marin San Francisco, but all of Marin and part of Sonoma counties. Proposition 45 is, in my opinion, a good idea and is a start to the end of the mindless term limit law that was passed 10 years ago.

Politics and people

Speaking of the March 5 primary, Supervisor **Mark Leno** has the endorsements of the San Francisco Police Officers Association, the S.F. Deputy Sheriff's Association, and the San Francisco Firefighters Association; endorsements a candidate for any office

A reader from Berkeley writes that she wishes she lived in San Francisco, "So I could vote for Mark Francisco, "So I could vote for Mark Leno." Well, you gotta know Karen, that you've got a candidate in the 14th Assembly District that I'd be voting for if I lived there – Loni Hancock; she's one of the best. Paul McConnell, the young Democrat running against Repre-sentative Nancy Pelosi for the District & Congressional District

District 8 Congressional District, has got to know he doesn't have a prayer against the popular Pelosi, but the guy is working hard and has some interesting campaign lit-

And this is strictly a personal endorsement (not necessarily the one of this paper) but in the race for Superior Court Judge #3, I'm voting for Deputy City Attorney Sean Connolly, and urge you to

Some of those political prog-nosticators watching the GOP gubernatorial contest are privately predicting that financier William E. Simon could pull an upset and beat Richard Riordan in that

beat Richard Riordan in that contest on March 5. Meanwhile, state Democratic candidates who deserve our sup-port include Kevin Shelley for secretary of state, Steve Westly

for controller, and John Gara-mendi for insurance commission-

But in San Francisco's local But in San Francisco's local races where Mark Leno should end up the winner to replace termed-out Assemblywoman Carole Migden in the 13th Assembly District, you should also keep an eye on the vote total that Richard Hongisto gets in the assessor race as well as how school board member Dan Kelly does in his 12th Assembly District Democratic contest against the

cratic contest against the favored Leland Yee (an upset could be in the cards there, too).

Democratic Sena-tors **Tom Daschle**

(South Dakota), John Edwards (North Carolina), and John Kerry (Massachusetts) – all possible 2004 presidential Our Man Friday

candidates – were in Los Angeles this past weekend making speeches to the California Democratic Party convention, but Governor Davis was clearly the star of the three-day Demo confab, which also, incidentally, endorsed San Francisco Assemblyman Kevin

Francisco Assemblyman Kevin Shelley over his two opponents for the party nomination in the March 5 primary.

After months of pretending he would avoid head-on partisan attacks on individual Democrats, and after campaigning for president on a repeated promise of moderating the "partisan tone in Washington," and further, after having seemingly tried to cultivate bipartisan support after the terbipartisan support after the ter-rorist attacks of September 11, President **George W. Bush** has now given strong notice that he is ready to return to the rough-andtumble world of partisan politics. Bush has taken a starring role in a Bush has taken a starring role in a new television advertisement paid for by the GOP National Com-mittee running in states attacking five Democratic incumbent sena-tors who voted against his eco-nomic stimulus package but who otherwise voted with the admin-istration 71 percent of the time. The ads are directed at Democratic Senators Max Baucus (Montana), Jean Carnahan (Mis-Souri), Tom Harkin (Iowa), Tim Johnson (South Dakota), and Paul Wellstone (Minnesota). Dubya apparently feels that "pa-triotic bipartisanship" only applies when it works in the favor of himand his political guru, Karl

Rove.

Meanwhile, the national press is having a field day with all those personal letters, notes, and e-mails that Bush has shared over the past few years with Kenneth "Kenny Boy" Lay, the former Enron chairman, who Bush now coolly refers to as "Mr. Lay."

In Missoula, Montana, more

to as "Mr. Lay."

In Missoula, Montana, more than 700 people turned out last week to show support for two lesbians whose home was gutted by fire several days after they became lead plaintiffs in a discrimination lawsuit against the University of Montane eaking health benefit. Montana seeking health benefits for gay partners of university employees. Someone apparently broke into the home of the professor, **Carla Grayson**, her partner, Adrian Neff, and their infant son at 3 a.m., doused the floor with gasoline, and set if afire, ac-

page 11



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Politically transgendered

by Gwendolyn Ann Smith

never thought when I was a young transgendered-woman-in-denial that I would someday be writing about the place of the transgendered in politics. It was still unfathomable a decade ago, as the nascent transgender community attempted to carve out at least some small voice for itself.

itself.
Yet, here I am, as the March
primaries loom, seriously discussing issues worth the ear of
transgendered voters.
At least one thing has gotten
more than its share of press coverage, and this is San Francisco

At least one thing has gotten more than its share of press coverage, and this is San Francisco Supervisor Mark Leno's stance on transgenderism, and what he will or will not do when he gets to Sacramento. It's a non-issue, in my own opinion; the sort of thing that gets brandished during a tightly contested political race.

As was mentioned in last week's Bay Area Reporter, I did indeed go directly to the source when a certain local newspaper published its endorsement for his opponent. I already knew what I would get in return, having previously spo-

ken to Supervisor Leno about the needs of transgendered people in California, and having seen him hard at work fighting for trans-

hard at work fighting for transgender civil rights.

Now I must point out that while I certainly hope that folks will go to the polls and cast a ballot for Supervisor Leno, I have also spoken with his opponent, Harry Britt, on the needs of transgendered people. After that discussion, and talks with some of his transgender supporters, I feel that — no matter who wins — the needs of the transgendered community will be furthered in the state Assembly courtesy of one of these two men. The only real difference will be in their tactics.

This is remarkable to me: I never expected to see a day where transgender civil rights would be a campaign issue worthy of so much time and energy. Nor did I expect to see the nature of how one will support transgendered people be the core of the issue.

I also never expected to sec transgendered people running for office. There are very few places out there where one can find transpeople in the political arena. As I write this, I can think of very few outside of the local area, including Georgina Beyer in New Zealand, as well as some very courageous hijra politicians in India.

As I have mentioned previously, we do have a candidate in the primary election who is transgen-

dered: Theresa Sparks. Sparks is running for a seat on the Democratic County Central Committee in the 13th Assembly District. While she is far from the first transgendered person to run for office in San Francisco – or all of California – a victory will find her becoming the first transgendered person elected to any office in either the city or state.

I think Sparks is used to firsts. She recently became one of the first transgender chairs or presidents of any Democratic club in

the United States, courtesy
of the Alice B. Toklas Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Democratic Club.
Before that, she became
the first transgendered
human rights commissioner in San Francisco, where she

Transmissions sits as chair of the HRC Issues dered people committee and as vice chair of the LCRT Advisory Committee

the LGBT Advisory Committee.

She has also discovered the downside of being first, after being shunned by a pair of organizations while attempting to gain endorsements. She was ignored by the Democratic Women's Forum, and had to face some painful difficulties with the National Women's Political Caucus.

Women's Political Caucus.

In the latter case, during an interview with the president of the local NWPC, she was informed that the organization "only endorses women" – the obvious inference being that Ms. Sparks is not a woman to this caucus.

I certainly hope that the NWPC will take a second look at this, and realize that Sparks is most certainly a woman, and one who deserves its endorsement. If not that, maybe NWPC members can learn and grow through this process, and make an attempt at unbiased endorsements in the future.

Before I close this missive – and to get away from this messy business with the NWPC – I want to draw attention to the governor's race. A regular reader echoed my sentiments on this earlier this week, saying, "I'll vote for Governor Davis in November, yet I'll vote against him in the March primary," I have to agree wholeheartedly. While I do not picture Richard Riordan being any friend to the transgendered community.

VOTE!

Gray Davis has a poor record when it comes to transgender

That is an understatement: he has gone out of his way to oppose legislation designed to help transgendered individuals. Some have mentioned that it was all a product of tradeoffs – he couldn't very well sign a bill allowing for fair employment and housing for transgendered people in California while also signing legislation on domestic partner benefits. Davis plays to the middle, and putting too much energy into the needs of the GLBT community would pull him away from his otherwise moderate stance. Because of this, I'll find myself checking the ballot for one of his Democratic opponents this March, while selecting him in November simply because I would not want Riordan having a say over myself and others like

I can take heart, though, that I can look at candidates such as Leno, Britt, and Sparks, and actually have a chance to choose a candidate based on something other than that "lesser of two evils" stance, while enjoying a time where the needs of transgendered people become something worthy of serious political discussion.

And who knows, perhaps there are still surprises to be had in the political arena. Maybe seeing a

And who knows, perhaps there are still surprises to be had in the political arena. Maybe seeing a transgendered person make a serious bid at higher office isn't that far off after all.

Gwen Smith isn't quite old enough to announce her candidacy for United States president. She can be found on the Web in Gay.com's "Transgender Gazebo," and at www.qwensmith.com.

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Mr. Clean

by Jane Warner

00 block of Duboce, February 15, 5:37 p.m.: A woman got into an argument with her roommate after he excessively sprayed Lysol in the kitchen. The woman was upset because she suffered force the control of the control woman was upset occause sne sur-fered from asthma and the spray was seeping into her bed-room. The argument be-came heated. Angry, the man took dirty dishes that were in the sink

and shattered them on the floor. As the woman tried to get him to stop breaking dishes, the roommate sprayed her in the face with

the can of Lysol. The woman ran to her bedroom where she called police. Responding officers knocked on the man's locked bedroom door, but he wouldn't answer. A tactical squad was called to the scene and kicked in the door, finding the man asleep on the bed. The man told officers he had passed out after taking some sleeping pills and didn't hear them knocking. An ambulance was called, and the man was taken to the hospital where he was evaluated and released back to the custody of police. The 31-year-old man was taken to Mission Station where he was booked for aggravated assault was booked for aggravated assault and vandalism and served with an emergency protective order to stay away from his roommate.

Mission High School, 3750 18th Street, February 15, 1 p.m.: While conducting class, a substitute sci-

ence teacher was repeatedly interto take her seat. The teacher warned the girl to quit disrupting the class or he would refer her to the administration. Defiantly approaching him, the student point-ed her finger and said, "Who the

hell are you, you're no teacher, you are nothing." She then slapped the teacher, knocking his glasses to the ground. The girl then left the classroom in an unknown direction and the teacher notified the office staff who called 911.
Police searched 11. e & could not be found. Officers filed a battery report and referred the teacher to the Juvenile Bureau **Punishment**

to follow-up on the matter.

Crime &

200 block of Dolores, February 11, 11 a.m.: A neighbor called po-11, 11 a.m.: A neighbor called police after seeing a man on the fire escape of the apartment building next door. When officers arrived, they found the suspect climbing through an open window on the side of the building. Drawing their firearms, the officers ordered the man to stop.

trearms, the officers ordered the man to stop.

"Okay, okay," the man yelled to officers as he climbed down from the fire escape. "Wait, wait." Suddenly the man turned and kicked in a fire door, escaping into a hallway. Several officers climbed up the fire escape and chased after the suspect but lost him inside the building. Other officers respondbuilding. Other officers responded to the scene, and a perimeter was established outside the apartment complex. About an hour

later, officers were approached by a woman who said the man they were looking for had been inside her apartment. The woman told officers she was awakened by a noise, looked up, and saw a man standing next to her bed. The intruder told her not to scream, that he was just "passing through." The burglar stayed in her apartment for about an hour while he waited for police to leave. During that time, he told the woman that his name was Kevin, that he lived in Oakland, was afraid to go back to jail, and among other things, was a Virgo.

Tired of waiting, the alleged burglar made a phone call from the woman's phone and then told her to walk out with him. When they reached the front door, the suspect saw several police officers and ran back into the building. The woman ran to a police officer outside and told him what hap-

pened.
Police searched the woman's apartment as well as the rest of the building, but the suspect - described as African American, 25-30 years old, 6 feet tall, 200 pounds, and wearing a black denim shirt over a white T-shirt, blue jeans, and a gold chain around his neck – was nowhere to be found. Several fingerprints, however, were lifted from inside the woman's apartment. The man, who eluded police and is still outstanding, is wanted for burglary and delaying arrest.

The San Francisco Patrol Special Police, which exclusively serves the Castro District, can be reached at (415) 559-9955.

TARC

◄ page 2

an 8 percent seroprevalance rate. These services cost approximately \$7,500 per month to deliver, or \$60,000 for the eight months from November 1, 2001 to July 1,

The integrated prevention program was previously funded in part by state funds through sepa-rate contracts, including a testing contract that funded \$31,150. It also received a funding augmenta-tion from the city's Department of Public Health AIDS Office's prevention division of approximately \$30,000 that allowed TARC to continue to administer the program through the first half of 2001. While the state-funded con-2001. While the state-runded contract was renewed in the amount of \$31,150, the agency learned it could not apply for additional funds to continue the services

until July 2002.

At the same time, TARC learned the funding source for the new prevention contract would shift from Center for Disease Control and Prevention funds, which would have begun in January of 2002, to general funds, beginning in July 2002. The combination of those factors led to the \$45,000 budget shortfall for TARC's HIV antibody testing and counseling services.

"Without sufficient funding

"Without sufficient funding, we will be forced to lay off prevention staff responsible for conducting HIV antibody testing and counseling, as well as individual risk reduction counseling and outreach," wrote TARC's interim executive director Tom Calvanese in a January 14 appeal to the com-munity. "It is essential that we continue to provide life-saving prevention education and tools to the residents of the Tenderloin who are at high risk for contract-ing HIV, particularly the African American men we have been so successful in reaching."

According to the letter, the

agency managed to cover the cost of providing the testing services in November and December last year only through an internal budget revision. Also, Harkin said the agency is making due without a receptionist, assigning other em-ployees to cover the position.

Despite the financial tango, the agency has yet to suspend its test-ing programs, though Harkin ad-mits that cannot continue without

some funding.
"We don't want to lose the mo-mentum we have built. If we lose momentum then we most likely will have to build again that trust and rapport" Harkin said TARC has nurtured with its clients. "But it is not certain how long we can

it is not certain how long we can do that without getting a concrete offer from a prospective funder."

While the agency is working with DPH staff to find a possible solution, Harkin said the agency is still hopeful a donor will come forward due to the fact their donation will make an immediate impact.

nation will make an immediate impact.

"With your support, we are confident that we can maintain our excellent track record in providing services to the Tenderloin community. Please join us in fighting the AIDS epidemic in one of San Francisco's hardest hit, highest risk and least visible neighborhoods," Calvanese wrote.

For more information, or to make a donation to TARC, call (415) 431-7476. ▼

Our Man Friday ⋖ page 9 cording to Missoula Police Chief

Boh Reid. Federal authorities are investigating the incident.

One of my longtime friends and favorite politicos, state Senator John Vasconcellos (D-San Jose), will be retiring at the end of his current term, winding up nearly 40 years in the state Capitol. Vasconcellos, the rumpled lawmaker who has been a good friend of gay and lesbian rights for many years, says he will be mov-ing permanently to Maui where he will retire. "I've got a condo a block from the ocean in Kihei; it's perfect," he said. No big lobbyist job or gubernatorial appointment for Vasco; he's earned his retire-

ment by the beach.

And San Francisco state Senator John Burton said the state should create a new office that would coordinate state and local efforts to assist the homeless. Burton said he will introduce a bill to

establish the agency, to be housed in the governor's office, and re-quire local authorities to report to the state any deaths of homeless people that occur due to exposure to the elements. "This is a problem of epidemic proportions, it isn't easy to solve," Burton said. That's news, senator? A tour of your hometown, San Francisco, the "city of and for the homeless" will confirm the homeless prob-lem has indeed become an "epi-demic."

And how was your week? ▼

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Activist groups push for microbicides

by Bob Roehr

icrobicides could do for infection and women's reproductive health what the pill did for conception 40 years ago, in terms of putting power and control into the hands of women, said Lori Heise, director of the Global Campaign for Microbicides. "The original idea for this didn't come from the halls of science, it came from the minds and the vision of women all over and the vision of women all over

the world."

"Microbicides: HIV Prevention's New Hope" was launched at a February 12 breakfast news con-ference at the National Press Club in Washington, D.C

The two-year project to push for development of microbicides is a coalition effort by women's and AIDS groups around the world and is supported by the Rockefeller Foundation.

Rockefeller Foundation.

A microbicide is any agent that can be applied like lubricant to the vagina, and ideally the rectum, to kill HIV, or to block or impede its ability to infect that person during sex. It may also protect against other sexually transmitted dis-

Geeta Rao Gupta, president of the International Center for Re-search on Women, shared the sto-ries of two women in the develop-ing world. Mira is recently married to a long distance truck driver in India, a profession that has a high rate of HIV infection through use of prostitutes.

"She is afraid of becoming in-



Geeta Rao Gupta, left, and Lori Heise announce a new push for the development of microbicides to fight HIV and STDs.

fected with HIV and also is afraid that if she doesn't conceive a child that it she doesn't conceive a child in their first year of marriage that she might face abandonment or worse," said Gupta. "Should Mira have to choose between having a child or becoming infected!"

child or becoming infected?"
Hope, a woman in Zimbabwe, has become concerned that her husband of 20 years might be HIV-positive. The last time she brought up the subject of using a condom, he beat her badly and accused her of infidelity, Gupta said.
Gupta said that women of all.

Gupta said that women of all

classes and countries are asking for a means to protect themselves "unobtrusively, perhaps without the active participation of their male partners. Something that al-lows skin to skin contact, which, as we know, is the central icon of

intimacy."

The initiative is issuing a series of five reports over the next two weeks that deal with various as-pects of developing a microbicide that is safe, effective, and accessi-ble to women throughout the One report is a public health model created by the London School of Tropical Health and Hy-giene. It shows that a product that is only 50 percent effective would prevent 2.5 million infections in just three vers a verting \$2.7 hil just three years, averting \$2.7 billion in health care costs and \$1 billion in absenteeism and re-

billion in absenteeism and retraining costs in the workplace.

The total cost of developing the first microbicide is estimated at \$775 million over five years. Presently only \$230 million is committed to the effort.

"We have been supremely uneffective in getting large pharmaceutical companies interested in this issue," said Heise. "It is not in their economic interest" because the products will have to be inexpensive to be affordable in the developing world where HIV is running rampant, she added.

One goal of the initiative is to get the National Institutes of Health to double its current research commitment to \$100 mil-

reach to double its current re-search commitment to \$100 mil-lion a year. Foundation money would be another source of sup-port. Along with the Rockefeller Foundation, the Gates Founda-tion has made a substantial commitment in the area of microbi-

"The science is doable, we can see a first generation microbicide

available within five years," said Heise. More than 60 products are in development, though only a few have entered human trials.

few have entered human trials. Most of them are only pennies per use, the big cost may well be in the applicators and packaging.

She believes, "If the public sector can get the first product out" and prove the concept, "then market forces will take over" and industry will increasingly be interested in developing improved second generation products.

Gupta sees one market for mi-

ond generation products.
Gupta sees one market for microbicides in the U.S. that parallels the developing world, where there are "imbalances of power" in abusive relationships, negotiating condom use is not possible, and the woman wants to try to protect herself from sexually transmitted diseases.

diseases.

Anne-Marie Corner is CEO of the small biotech company Biosyn that is developing four microbicidal products with different mechdal products with different mech-anisms of action. She said there is a population in the U.S. that would not use a microbicide un-less it was labeled as a contracep-tive. A product labeled only for disease prevention would imply questions of the partner's sexual fidelity that many would find threatening to that relationship, she said.

Study: Cocaine dramatically accelerates HIV

by Bob Roehr

he traditional hit on most recreational drugs is that they loosen inhibitions and may contribute to riskier sexual behavior, thus increasing the risk of becoming infected with HIV and other sexually transmitted

diseases.

Now comes evidence that corow comes evidence that co-caine dramatically accelerates the progression of HIV disease in those who already are infected with the virus. The work by Dr. Gayle Baldwin at the University of Galifornia at Los Angeles School of Medicine builds upon what doctors have observed in patients and offers the first proof in an an-imal model that cocaine truly does have this effect, even though the exact mechanism of how this oc-

Curs has yet to be determined.

Baldwin's work used genetically altered mice that do not reject human blood cells. She found that cocaine doubled the number of blood cells that become infected with LIW deteroused in partitions. with HIV, destroyed nine times the number of CD4 cells, and re-sulted in a viral load that was 200-fold higher than what was seen in mice that did not receive cocaine.

"The cocaine increased HIV's efficiency so dramatically that it nearly wiped out the CD4 T-cells,"

The researcher has been working on how cocaine affects the immune system for more than a decade. She is not sure exactly how cocaine causes all of these things to happen but she is conducting additional studies to nail down that mechanism of action. One possibility is that cocaine upregulates CCR5 receptors, upregulates CCR5 receptors, somehow moving greater numbers of those molecules from the interior to the surface of the T-cells. CCR5 is the receptor that most forms of HIV use to gain entry to the cell—the more receptors on the surface, the greater the opportunity for one or many viruses to infect that cell.

Researchers have learned that in the gut, where more T-cells are

Researchers have learned that in the gut, where more T-cells are concentrated than anywhere else in the body, T-cells express greater numbers of CCR5 on their surface than they do when circulating throughout the rest of the body. It is unclear whether those receptors are upregulated by chemical signalers present in the gut, or downregulated by chemical signalers in the periphery.

regulated by chemical signalers in the periphery.

Baldwin said that the amount of cocaine the mice were given "was analogous to what a highend crack cocaine smoker would use on a regular basis." It is unclear whether less intense or less frequent use of cocaine would have a different effect; it may be like different effect; it may be like pregnancy where a little bit of exposure is sufficient and more ex-

posure is sufficient and more ex-posure changes nothing.

The bottom line, according to
Jules Levin, executive director of
the National AIDS Treatment Ad-vocacy Project, is, "if you have
HIV, using illicit drugs can be bad
for you." While the real risk associated with specific amounts of drug use has not yet been clearly defined, "this should serve as a

defined, this should serve as a cautionary note."

Baldwin's study is being published in the March issue of *The Journal of Infectious Diseases*. ▼

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Scouts' anti-gay resolution could silence local opponents

by Matthew S. Bajko

ow that the Boy Scouts of America has made its antigay stance official policy this month, local Scout leaders and activists fear it will silence all

debate on the issue.

The Scouts' national executive board approved a resolution on February 6 that reaffirms its traditional leadership standards, de-claring that homosexuals and atheists are unfit to serve as role models for Scouts. Although the Boy Scouts have had an unwritten policy concerning gays, this is the first time in its 92-year history that it has become an actual resolution.

While the anti-gay position is no surprise since the United States Supreme Court ruled in 1999 that the Scouts could discriminate against gays, what dismays scouting activists is the national organization's decision that such a policy cannot be subject to "local option choices," according to the res-

olution.
Activists argue the resolution came about in response to the many individual Scout councils that are calling for change within the organization. These councils were fighting to maintain their right to choose their own membership and leadership, even if this included leaders and Scouts who

happened to be gay.

In Berkeley, just days after the national board voted on the resolution, nearly 40 people, including 24 Scouts, met to discuss how to pass a policy accepting of homosexuals within the Mount Diablo Silverado Council, which stretches from Richmond and Berkeley in Alame-



Kriss Worthington

da County to Antioch and Walnut

Creek in Contra Costa County.

The meeting, scheduled prior to the national board's decision, consisted of showing the movie Scout's Honor and discussion af-

"We were trying to figure out how to get the Mount Diablo rehow to get the Mount Diablo re-gional group to take an official po-sition," said Kriss Worthington, an openly gay Berkeley councilman who has been a vocal opponent of the Scouts' anti-gay policy. "Until this week, I felt we were strongly moving in this direction." But those fighting for a change in the anti-gay policy feel the new

in the anti-gay policy feel the new resolution strikes down local au-thority and autonomy and in effect says that parents and volun-teers cannot be responsible for choosing the best leadership for their own children.

"It is ironic that the BSA core

ratio of respecting diversity is not practiced within the organization," said Scott Cozza, president of Scouting for All. "And it is a shame

that the BSA national office is turn-

ing a deaf ear to its own members."

Scouting for All, along with its supporters, has struggled to enact change from within the organization and has been working with local councils that want to stand up to the national office.

up to the national office.

"It is no small thing to risk getting kicked out of an organization you love," said Steven Cozza, 16-year-old co-founder of Scouting for All. "But denouncing bigotry and prejudice is really what the Scout Oath and Law are about. These councils recognized that and did the right thing."

Whether parents in the Mount Diablo Council can move forward with their plan to oppose the na-

with their plan to oppose the na-tional policy remains to be seen. Berkeley resident Lincoln Cushing, whose 11-year-old son is a member of Scout Troop 24, attended the Sunday meeting and has been working with other parents on developing a course of action.

"It is unclear what is going to happen," said Cushing, who once marched in the Solano Stroll, an annual street festival, with a ban-ner reading "Berkeley Scout par-ents say no to homophobia." Cushing said he fears taking a stand will result in the troop los-

ing its accreditation.

"Essentially, they have placed a gag order on Scout leaders from talking about this," said Cushing. "It is really coming down as being intolerant and it is hard to live

Scouting for All is determined to Scouting for All is determined to continue its fight to see the Scout policy on gays overturned. The organization is asking the United Way to adhere to its anti-discrimination standards and requesting that public schools not allow the BSA to recruit in the schools. It has also requested President Bush step down as the honorary president of the BSA.

"If the BSA wants to continue to symbolize bigotry let it do so, but without the support of Americans and individual Scout councils who oppose bigotry and dis-

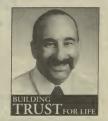
cils who oppose bigotry and discrimination," said Scott Cozza.



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Florida prosecutors ponder death penalty in Ezerski case

by Ed Walsh

prosecutors mulling over whether to seek the death penalty against Adam Ezerski, the 19-year-old man who allegedly killed and robbed a man in Fort Lauderdale ast summer before heading to San

last summer before heading to San Francisco.
Ezerski's attorney, Broward County Chief Assistant Public De-fender Bob Wills, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that prosecutors have already filed first-degree murder charges. Wills noted that if the prosecution deeps' out for if the prosecution doesn't opt for the death penalty, Ezerski still faces life in prison without the

possibility of parole if convicted.

In correspondence with the B.A.R., Ezerski seemed convinced that the state will seek the death

"One thing I must say is that it is very upsetting to know that the state is seeking the death penalty,"

In an exclusive telephone interview with the B.A.R. days after he was arrested, Ezerski said that he killed Anthony Martilotto in a Fort Lauderdale hotel room in to rape him. Police believe the 39-

year-old man had been strangled. Ezerski allegedly took some jewelry and money from Martilotto before driving to San Francisco in Martilotto's rented Ford Mus-tang. Police originally suspected Ezerski in the murder of another Florida man but they have since ruled him out in that case.

After Ezerski allegedly attacked a man in San Francisco, he ran away to Reno with San Franciscan Troy Young. The pair checked into a Holiday Inn where they were ar-

rested three days later.
Young, 37, was on parole for a drug offense and was sent back to state prison. Young told the B.A.R. that he expects to be released in the spring. He's maintained a cor-respondence with Ezerski and said that he remains convinced of his

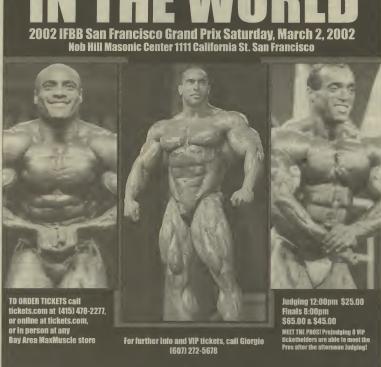
innocence.

The Broward County prosecutor who is handling the case, Tony Loe, confirmed that he's made no decision about the death penalty. Loe told the B.A.R. that he wasn't prepared to discuss whether Ezerski made inconsistent statements about his about his placed to the confirmed to the conf

made inconsistent statements about his alleged killing of Martilotto.

No trial date has been set. A preliminary hearing will likely be scheduled early this spring. ▼





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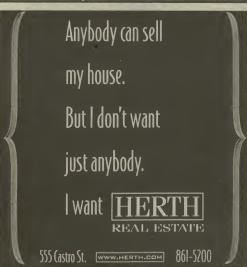


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Queer youth get national, local support

by Katie Szymanski

n a significant victory for safe-ty in schools, the nation's largest teachers' union has ap-proved a resolution that address-es anti-gay harassment and abuse in America's schools.

in America's schools.

On Friday, February 8, the National Education Association's board of directors adopted a series of recommendations that encourages inclusive LGBT language in school anti-harassment policies and the development of educational materials for classroom and community discussion.

tional materials for classroom and community discussion. "It's pretty stupendous," said MK Cullen, policy director for the national office of Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network.

The recommendations go be-yond the symbolic and are in fact the result of several months of work by a task force formed by the union in order to address the issues with depth, according to Cullen.

"These comprehensive recom-mendations give teachers the train-ing and tools necessary to recognize and address LGBT harassment," said Cullen. Some of the specific recommendations call for LGBT training to occur whenever there are union gatherings, as opposed to

previously scheduled trainings that tended to attract only those teachers who were interested.

Training teachers to know how to respond to anti-LGBT attitudes is half the battle, as recent GLSEN surveys have shown that 81 per-cent of the students who were harassed said a teacher "never or seldom intervened," while 23 percent of the victims heard derogatory remarks from teachers themselves Overall, four out of five LGBT students reported verbal, sexual, or physical harassment in school. In addition to addressing sex-

uality-based discrimination, the uality-based discrimination, the recommendations also call for expanding existing policies that include "sexual orientation" to include "gender identification," a recognition of the unique issues faced by gender-variant students and teachers.

The National Education As-"The National Education Association has shown tremendous leadership, and we look forward to the full implementation of these life-saving recommendations," said Cullen, who expects that it will "take time" to fully implement all aspects of the recommendations. "These recommendations are also significant in that they will send a message that encourages other organizations and courages other organizations and policy makers to support safer

schools for everyone."

Of course, many LGBT youth face issues even more serious than school harassment. Here in San Francisco, the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus and special guests will headline a benefit to assist youth who are facing homelessness, HIV/AIDS, addiction, discrimination, and limited access to crimination, and limited access to education.

education.
The concert, entitled, "Tomorrow's Child" takes place on Monday, February 25, at the Palace of Fine Arts. The show starts at 8 p.m., and, in addition to the chorus, features Carol Channing, the Barbary Coast Cloggers, Wilson Cruz, Kim Kuzma, Allyson Larkin, Sharon McNight, Richard Skipper, and the cast of *Tapestry*. Tickets are \$100 for a before-show reception and priority seating; \$75 ception and priority seating; \$75 for priority seating; and \$50 for general seating. Donations above ticket prices are always welcome, and those who cannot attend are and those who cannot attenu are encouraged to donate so that a youth may attend. All guests are invited to a post-show reception with the artists. All proceeds will benefit the local GLSEN chapter, Larkin Street Youth Services, and Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center. For more information call (415) 865-3650 or visit www.sfgmc.org.

Berkeley queer conference starts Fri.

by Katie Szymanski

hose who have been won-dering about the recent flap over a male sexuality class at the University of California, Berkeley, need not worry that the Berkeley, need not worry that the controversy will interfere with this weekend's Queer In All Directions conference, a gathering that will tackle everything from "Geek Sex" to student activism.

(A male sexuality course at Cal was suspended this week after it was revealed that illicit class activities took place. The class's female

ities took place. The class's female

counterpart is also under review, according to the Daily Californian

newspaper.)

Queer In All Directions is aimed at the campus crowd, but it may be of interest to anyone with an academia or theory fetish, and is open to "everyone, regardless of sexuality, race, ethnicity, or religion," said conference co-chair John Mendoza.

This year's 13th annual conference, presented by the University of California Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Intersex Associa-tion, runs from February 22-24 is expected to attract the largest attendance ever.

Over 60 workshops will be of-fered, including an overview of university LGBT life in the last university LGBT life in the last century; a presentation on right-wing gay politics; some how-to classes in queer immigration, safer oral sex, and addressing the needs of transgender youth; and orga-nizing around race, class, and gen-der issues. Politics, activism, health, sexuality, education, re-search, community-building, and the arts will all be explored, and the arts will all be explored, and conference headliners include keynote speaker Dr. Susan Stryker; author-activists Carol Queen and Patrick Califia-Rice; a teenled panel on LGBT issues in public schools; and City Council members Kriss Worthington of Berkeley and Danny Wan of Oakland.

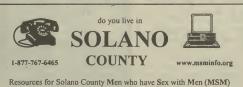
Today (Thursday, February 21) Today (Inursay, February 21) is the last day to register online to avoid a \$10 jump in fees. Pre-registration costs are \$30 for students, \$50 for faculty, and \$55 for attendees not affiliated with the university. On Friday, February 22 registration takes place in per-22, registration takes place in person at the rate of \$40 for students, \$60 for faculty, and \$65 for non-

affiliated guests.

The University of California Les Dian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgen-der, Intersex Association is a UC system-wide association for all LGBTI students, faculty, staff, and alumni that addresses system-wide goals, such as LGBT resource cen-ters, domestic partnership beneters, domestic partnership benefits, and other issues of equity.

For more information about the conference, or to pre-register, visit http://queer.berkeley.edu/conference.





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Supermodel' out of race

by Katie Szymanski

aving all the popularity in the country still cannot raise money for an election victory, or so learned Canada's Enza "Supermodel" Anderson last

The popular drag queen and political poll favorite to lead the right-wing Canadian Alliance Party officially withdrew from the race last month, citing a lack of

"Unless some sugar daddy comes along in the next few hours, then honey, I'm toast!" said Anderson at her official "pulling

It was last summer that Anderson decided to vie for the spot in the party with the racist, classist, and homophobic reputation. She ran on a lefty platform of afford-able housing and LGBT and racial equality precisely to test the party's claim of being inclusive. "If the Alliance thinks it's a

very open party, and it wants to break perceptions, it has to let me in to run for leader," Anderson told the *Bay Area Reporter* in De-

The Alliance Party appeared to

take notice of her candidacy, with its former leader Stockwell Day stating, "I'm just pleased that we continue to attract people from across the spectrum. We're very open, we're very diverse."

It may have started as a joke,

but Anderson's race quickly be-came serious, with most media polls showing her as the top con-

tracting monetary support from the progressive community that she intended to represent, and even her promise not to give any funds to the Alliance Party seemed to fall on deaf ears.

"I really don't want to lay any blame, but I have to tell you that getting people to sign up to be a member of the Canadian Alliance member of the Canadian Alliance was like ripping pantyhose. Hands up – those of you who know how to rip pantyhose," said Anderson as she withdrew. "People would say, 'Enza, I want to support you but I just cannot bring myself to join the Alliance Party because but I just cannot bring myself to join the Alliance Party because they really freak me out.' That, ladies and gentlemen, was the biggest stumbling block I encoun-tered and I really believe that the lack of support for my nomina-tion bid is a scathing indictment racist, bigoted, and homophobic

All was not lost, however, as a significant portion of the \$7,000 raised for the campaign will now go to deserving charities. Anderson already presented a check for \$700 to Canada's lesbian, gay, and bisexual youth line, a hotline set up to help queer youth across On-

Also noteworthy, said Anderson, was her campaign's ability to draw attention to the Alliance Party's bigoted positions on is-

"Who would have thought that a drag queen would have the balls to speak in front of 400 staunch Canadian Alliance mem-bers in Chatham, Ontario? To hold them accountable for their hold them accountable for their past sins of racism, bigotry, and homophobia? Probably very few, yet dozens of these people came up to me afterwards to congratulate me and say, 'This was what the Canadian Alliance Party really needed to hear.'

"Folks, this has been an incredible ride," concluded Anderson, "and I truly believe that I've already made a big difference in Canadian politics." ▼ The Market Street Club

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Alabama judge rules lesbian unfit parent

by Katie Szymanski

woman was denied custody of her children on Friday, February 15 when an Alabama

judge pronounced her inherently evil because she is a lesbian. The case was brought by an unnamed plaintiff who charged that her ex-husband, who resides in Alabama and has had custody of their three teenagers since 1996, was abusive.

In denying the mother custody, Chief Justice Roy Moore of

the Alabama Supreme Court, already infamous for placing large monuments of the Ten Com-mandments in the judicial building last year, said homosexuality is "abhorrent, immoral, de-testable, a crime against nature, and a violation of the laws of na-ture." Moore also quoted from the scripture throughout the trial.

Gay rights group were en-raged after the decision and many activists and politicians on Tuesday, February 19 called for Moore to step down from the bench.
"Chief Justice Moore has de-

creed that his personal religious beliefs will now be the law of the land in Alabama. This violates the constitutional mandate of separation of church and state, and it renders him unfit to serve as a judge," Lorri Jean, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, told re-

Fittingly, this week marks the third anniversary of the brutal murder of Alabama's Billy Jack Gaither, who was beaten to death and then set on fire by two men who claimed he made homosexual advances toward them.

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The Dobbs letter blows it

by Michael Lauro, Survive AIDS Writers Pool

ecently, Michael Petrelis and ACT UP/San Francisco member David Pasquarelli found themselves in jail facing multiple charges. A number of individuals have signed onto a "Letter of Concern" authored by a gay activist named Bill Dobbs.

The Dobbs "letter of concern," co-signed almost exclusively by individuals outside of California, begins with an inexact warning: "JAILED ACTIVISTS: WARTIME STANDARDS NOW THREATEN NON-VIOLENT DIRECT ACTION ON AIDS." This flawed header not only presumes the defendants are being overcharged in a post-9/11 atmosphere, but also that their actions were non-violent, and that the prosecution is an attempt to muzzle free speech.

were non-violent, and that the prosecution is an attempt to muzzle free speech.

However, after attending the preliminary hearing over many days, researching the charges, and hearing numerous recorded messages left by the pair, this dire admonishment and much of the remaining rhetoric of those who support the two defendants ignores the essential facts of the case. Far less about a right-wing threat to non-violent activism, this case more accurately resembles a calculated campaign of menacing threats that have landed Pasquarelli and Petrelis exactly where they should be. (Both men have entered not-guilty pleas to the charges.)

To begin, San Francisco District Attorney Terence Hallinan hasn't "dusted off the books" as Dobbs's rhetoric alleges. Nor has Hallinan overcharged the two. The number of charges (what they allegedly did) multiplied by the number of counts (how often they allegedly did) by while numerous, simply reflects the facts of this case. That the number of counts is many has more to do with what the two did than how the district attorney decided to prosecute the case.

The limited evidence presented so far suggests that both defendants engaged in a sustained and escalating scheme of harassment and Survive AIDS

against reporters they disagreed with, researchers, city officials, and the innocent family members of these people. The charges filed include: violating a protective order, making obscene phone calls, disturbing the peace, unlawful assembly, stalking, riot, conspiracy, and making criminal threats. (Pasquarelli has been charged in a separate but related case alleging much the same criminal activity directed toward University of California, San Francisco workers and will be tried later on those charges, to which he also has pleaded not guilty.)

Based on the recordings I have

Based on the recordings I have heard during the preliminary hearing, these charges are fully supportable. The recordings played at the preliminary hearing include haunting language designed to deliver numerous chilling threats ("your days are numbered," "if there's one more word [from you], you're finished – forever," "you and your little dog better wake up ... if you want to continue to walk the streets," etc.). The final recording played in court delivers an ultimatum – do as we say or the threatening early

morning calls will continue –
and seems more worthy of
a rank extortionist than
an AIDS activist. Far
from a simple "telephone zap" as some
have argued, these actions were part of a repugnant cam-

AIDS associated with.

Violating an in-place protective order, making obscene calls, and disturbing the peace seem evident based on the facts. Conspiracy is two or more persons acting in concert, certainly not a reach in this case. Unlawful assembly is two or more persons assembling to do an unlawful act or a lawful act in a boisterous manner, supportable, I suppose, if the pair came together to make these calls. Riot can be sustained by a threat to use force or violence by two or more persons acting together.

to use force or violence by two or more persons acting together. The remaining charges, both felonies, include stalking and making criminal threats. Stalking is sustained by multiple harassing threats with the intent to frighten the victim or their family. The criminal threat charge(s), erroneously misstated by the defendants' supporters as a post-9/11 "terrorism" crime, finds its original justification in domestic violence cases. In January 2001, the crime of "terrorist threats" was reclassified by the California Legislature as "criminal threats" – a change deliberately made in order to avoid this kind of confusion.

The Dobbs letter also attacks

The Dobbs letter also attacks the initial bail of around \$500,000 for each defendant. That issue has now been rendered moot as the judge earlier this month lowered the bail at the end of the probable cause hearing to \$100,000 each—an amount everyone knew the two could meet. However, Dobbs's initial bail concern neglected to mention that the statutory schedule for these charges ranged from \$135,000 to \$175,000. Beyond that, the initial bail amounts reflected these aggravating factors: (1) The defendants were already out on their own recognizance for charges in a separate pending case; (2) The numerous counts (different acts) committed; (3) The numerous number of victims; (4) The escalating nature of the threats made.

threats made.

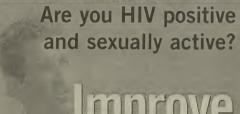
Signers to the Dobbs "letter of concern" might well have waited to hear some of the evidence amassed against Petrelis and Pasquarelli, lest their rush to come to the rescue of the defendants be mistaken as an unequivocal letter of support for intolerable behavior. After all this wasted hype

about punitive bail, the real issue is that after a full hearing, the judge found probable cause on all the charges, refusing to reduce any of the felony counts to misdemeanors.

This case comes after years of city officials and law enforcement officials doing nothing to prevent a climate of intimidation and fear. Well before this most recent episode, more than 1,300 San Franciscans from the AIDS and queer communities demanded the district attorney to act as far back as two years ago. It's his job to make the most forceful case he can to the public. Let no one forget that in October 2000, a 20-page ruling was issued after nearly a month of testimony, finding that "ACT UP/SF has an organizational commitment to violent tactics"

By AUSF's own admission, thousands of specific protection orders, issued only upon a credible showing of proof, have been directed against them. Obviously this burdensome remedy has failed to adequately protect a community and says volumes about what we on the West Coast have dealt with for too long. We are tired of serving as fodder for AUSF. If this is activism to be defended, we might as well start pimping for the drug companies because we have all surely lost our way.

Michael Lauro is also a member of AIDS Activists Against Violence & Lies.



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Dog-mauling

◆ page 4

Presa Canario dogs, Bane and Hera, during the attack on Whipple, her next-door neighbor. Knoller is being charged with second-degree murder. Noel, 60, faces involuntary manslaughter as his most serious charge. The attorney-couple is also charged with keeping a mischievous animal that killed a human being.

Whipple's partner, Sharon Smith, was in attendance for the opening statements but she left just before Hammer introduced autopsy photographs that showed Whipple's body riddled with bite wounds.

wounds.
Whipple's mother, Pamela
Whipple-Kelly, also was in attendance. She stayed through Hammer's presentation but she told reporters later that she felt as if she was suffocating when Hammer said Bane suffocated Whipple by crushing her throat.

sand bank suncetted Whipple by crushing her throat. Smith's relationship to Whipple was established early on. Hammer referred to her as Whipple's "partner," and Ruiz called Smith Whipple's "girlfriend." Knoller's mother also was

Knoller's mother also was among courtroom observers. She told reporters outside court that her daughter is very compassionate, feels sorry for what happened, and has been made sick by the ordeal.

In his arguments, Hammer reiterated that testimony would prove that there were an ample number of times before the mauling that the dogs showed signs of aggression and the couple did nothing to mitigate the danger.

number of times before the mauling that the dogs showed signs of aggression and the couple did nothing to mitigate the danger. "Diane Whipple was not the first victim of these dogs, she was the last victim of the dogs, of a long line of almost 30 prior warnings and incidences: lunges and bites even and specific warnings about what the defendants could have done to protect people. One jumps to mind: a muzzle, a choke collar, training of any sort. In light of these specific warnings, 'Use a muzzle, use a choke collar,' the defendants, the evidence will show, deliberately ignored all of those warnings and Diane Whipple is dead because of that.

dead because of that.

"On January 26, 2001, the evidence will show that Marjorie Knoller had repeated knowledge of the danger of these dogs through her husband's nearly severed finger to lunges on a pregnant woman and a small child to a bite on a man in the elevator and on and on and on. She had knowledge, she had warnings, and she acted, the evidence will show, in total disregard of those. And under the law of implied malice, that's second-degree murder," Hammer said.

Ruiz passionately countered by showing jurors a nearly life-sized photograph of Knoller taken just after the mauling that showed her bloodied and bruised. Ruiz cried out in a sobbing voice on three separate occasions as she told jurors that Knoller risked her own life to sawe Whinnle

separate occasions as she told jurors that Knoller risked her own life to sawe Whipple.

"Marjorie was very concerned," Ruiz said. "She had never been in a situation where Bane had pulled her off her feet. She had never been in a situation where both dogs were not being obedient to her. She had never been in a situation where Hera was barking hysterically as Bane was jumping up on someone. She wanted immediately to take emergency action to protect Ms. Whipple out of harm's way. She wanted to get Ms. Whipple out of harm's way. She wanted to get Ms. Whipple away from these does.

these dogs.
"But the evidence will not show

next page

Matthew Willard Cooper



nature and sharp wit will be remembered and missed.
He is survived by sisters Catherine
Berman, Sandra Lobese, and Sarah,
brothers Michael and Kevin, and mother
Jeannette Dickinson. He was preceded in death by his father Willard, in
1972, and his partner Joseph, in 1988.
He is also survived by his adored nieces
and nephews, Jenna, Alexandra, Colson
Lee, Caleb, Kyle, Samuel, and Rachel
Cooper.
Memorial services were held at

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AIDS agencies

publicans in D.C. want to defund HIV prevention for gay men. I think it is highly irresponsible because the path that they are taking will devastate people's lives," said Darlene Weide, executive director of Stop AIDS. "What really is obsene is that 20 years into the epidemic, when we know prevention works, we are spending precious resources and time at having to respond to these redundant investispond to these redundant investi-gations and reports. We are in compliance. We know prevention

compliance. We know prevention works. Let us do our job."

The report attempts to validate its venom for these agencies "wasteful spending" by connecting it to the government's "War on Terrorism."

"It is more important than ever for the federal government to use its resources in the most cost-effective manner possible to find a cure for AIDS and to protect the country against chemical warfare and bioterroism. Duplicative social programs and pornographic cial programs and pornographic prevention seminars do nothing to bring-about an end to this dreaded disease or to combat terrorism," states the report.

But the worst vitriol in the re-But the worst vitriol in the report is leveled at Steven Tierney, the city's director of HIV prevention. Tierney is charged with not taking HIV prevention seriously and attacked for not reprimanding an HIV-positive prevention worker for admitting to the New York Times that he had unprotected on the New York Times that he had unprotected servers.

In addition, the report characterizes Tierney's attitude as "callous" and questions his ability to comply with federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines regulating how agen-cies spend federal funding on pre-vention programs.

"Not only does Tierney sooff at

the standards set for federal programs by the CDC, he also can't control the activities of the groups under his agency's purview that



Steve Tierney

rely on tax dollars for their work While one can hope that Tierney is an exception to the leadership required at local departments of health, there is nonetheless sys-temic duplication and waste in AIDS programs throughout the country," states the report.

In an interview with the Bay

Area Reporter, Tierney dismissed the report as merely old news from the radical members of ACT UP/San Francisco, whose members argue that AIDS is over, and ACT UP/D.C.

"There is nothing in there that is fresh. It is standard Michael Pe-trelis language," said Tierney, who said he was never contacted by the author of the report or anyone from the taxpayers group. "They take a couple of alleged facts and wrap a whole story around it. They never even made any attempt to contact me to find out if

tempt to contact me to find out if anything they were saying is true." Despite the report's ominous tone, Tierney said he is not concerned that it will have any impact on how the government funds HIV prevention programs. He added he doesn't mind bearing the brunt of the attacks if it keeps HIV and AIDS on the public agenda.

"We work hard to do HIV prevention here in innovative and ef-

fective ways. If it gets the attention

of people and keeps people talk-ing about HIV prevention, then I am happy to have them beat up on me a little bit," said Tierney. AIDS activist Jeff Getty, a member of Survive AIDS, dis-missed the notion there is wide-spread mismanagement of funds by prevention programs. But he by prevention programs. But he said such attacks will continue if these agencies remain hidden behind closed doors

"This is a sad thing, but unfor-tunately, it is a result of AIDS ortunately, it is a result of AIDS organizations for years and years not being willing to show their books to the public and not having open relationships with the community," said Getty. "This is what happens every time you circle the wagons anytime someone questions how you are spending the money."

Getty attacked the two ACT

Getty attacked the two ACT UP groups for courting rightwing Republicans in order to further their own political causes.

"They can't change the AIDS funding structure so they go and try to destroy it," he said. "It is not fair to use right-wing lobbyist organizations' inherent homophobia to beat up on AIDS agencies. There has got to be a better way to do this."

At the Valentine's Day press conference in Washington, D.C., ACT UP/D.C. coordinator Wayne Turner thanked the taxpayer group for its report and vowed to

continue to question how AIDS agencies spend federal money.

"Too many HIV/AIDS patients have needlessly suffered and died as a direct result of AIDS funding abuses. Only through vigilance and increased oversight can we ensure that public funds ear-marked for medical treatment and marked for medical treatment and care actually help patients in need," said Turner. "By identifying the deficiencies in HIV/AIDS pa-tient care, we can better work at the federal and local level to improve the quality and accessibility of services that those living with HIV/AIDS depend upon for their very survival."

about it, consequently opening her up to cross-examination. Ruiz said that Knoller told police just after the mauling the same story that she's told all along: that she did everything she could to control



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Dog-mauling

previous page

that Marjorie stood back and let that horrible thing happen to that beautiful girl," Ruiz cried out in a beautitul girl, Kuiz cried out in a sobbing voice. "Marjorie Knoller tried to save that woman's life with her own body. Marjorie Knoller, when the police arrived, was cov-ered in blood. This is not the blood pattern that occurs when someone is walking a dog, the dog darts away, engages in an attack and the person says, 'Stop, stop, Bane, you stop,'" Ruiz shouted. "No, this kind stop," Ruiz shouted. "No, this kind of blood soaking occurred when you put your body on the victim and try to protect her from those berserko crazy dogs." Ruiz questioned the credibility

of prosecution witnesses because she said none filed complaints with any authorities about the dogs and only came forward after the case had gotten a lot of pub-

licity. Ruiz suggested the witnesses may have been motivated to come forward to get their "15-minutes" of fame.

Ruiz specifically mentioned statements Smith made about Whipple being bitten by one of the dogs in an earlier run-in she and with them. Ruiz said that Smith changed her story, first telling investigators that Whipple had red marks on her hand where she was bitten and later testifying she was bitten and later testifying before a grand jury that Whipple had puncture marks on her hand. Ruiz questioned why Whipple didn't seek medical attention if one of the dogs punctured her skin. Ruiz added that two of Whipple's close friends saw no puncture marks on her hand.

At one point in her remarks.

At one point in her remarks, Ruiz appeared to back herself into a corner when she was about to play a taped statement Knoller gave to police two hours after the attack. Siding with an objection by the prosecution, San Francisco Superior Court Judge James War-ren wouldn't allow Ruiz to play the statement because he said such a statement would have to be such a statement would have to be introduced by the prosecution. Warren said that Knoller could testify in the course of the trial about what she told police but since no decision was made about whether she would testify, it couldn't be admitted during Ruiz's opening statement.

Ruiz's opening statement.
Ruiz was finally allowed to tell
jurors what Knoller said to police
in that statement after she
promised Warren that Knoller
would take the stand and testify her dogs and stop the attack. Ruiz again pointed to the photograph of Knoller covered in blood.

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Torched

by Jim Provenzano

mid all the Olympics scandal, Newsweek's cover story mentions the gay angle. 'Another judge recalls being

Another Judge recalls being told that a young gay skater was marked down because he had been 'too promiscuous' on the juniors circuit," says Newsweek, without going further. Darn.

In the words of the Vampire Lestat, "Come out, come out, wherever you are." You'll probably get a book deal.

get a book deal.

Revisiveek also reveals what I presciently referred to last week as the "Hoard of the Rings" angle: "Olympics pairs judges are chosen

at the preceding World Championships: any country with a skater going to the Olympics gets to name a judge. The names go into a hat, and nine are chosen for each figure-skating event."

What an odd fellowship. What an odd fellowship.
Tainting of the Olympics
seemed preordained by cartoons, giving Fox the
best Sunday coverage.
For The Simpsons,
the Olympic Torch is
merely an irritant, a
mesky interruption to

Complex pesky interruption to Homer's couch potato life. He

steals it, every four years.

For the King of the Hill clan, it took on competitive family values.

A competition ensued between portly gayish Bobby and his dad over the slot of local torch-bearer.

Being a high school football hasbeen, the father won the local votes, including one from his neighbor, who lights a Marlboro on the Torch itself.

Bobby remembers

Bobby remembers this, and when dad falls in a puddle, he gets the neighbor to toke on the cig to keep the flame burning. Tobacco had not besmirched the purity of the flame but carried

the purity of the flame, but carried it. The smoker "inhaled it." For San Franciscans, when the

Sports

torch passed through our town, it seemed like yet another rush. It's amazing it wasn't bummed, in-haled, or stolen.

The noble flame device was

carried by Barry Bonds, who of course saved San Francisco for a mere \$90 million, possibly becoming the only profitable sports franchise in the Peninsula. What a

But his strangely ironic white-cocoon warm-up suit betrayed the atmosphere of the Olympic host city, which is hopefully sending back our Muni buses soon. With a four or five hour backup reported in Salt Lake traffic, it sounds like r buses are making themselves

Figure perfect

Ice skating always fulfills the drama portion of the pageant. David Pelletier and Jamie Sale just sparkled. Aren't we glad they got their gold? Don't they look like cloned Mouseketeers? Aren't they just so squeaky clean you wanna hug 'em? Aren't Canadian accents

sexy yet not threatening? How long until the action figures are on sale?

Less than a year ago, Jamie was only a hostess at a coffee shop. David poured beer for tourists.

Now they've got a manager fending off more than 100 offers. He's looking for a handful that'll offer long-term contracts. And justly so. Sometimes, nice people get what they deserve.

What must it feel like to expect a medal you and others know you

deserve, only to be cheated by crooked judges? What validity is there in a medal given after the initial ceremony? Does it make you ponder the meaning of athlatic compatibility.

you ponder the meaning of autiletic competition?

(Vision blurs. Swirly snowy flashback) I'm seeing canals ...
Why am I seeing canals? All I can hear is ... Heineken jingles! (waves off swirly flashback)

Whoah. Shouldn't try a 360

without my Wheaties.

Ice dancing and figure skating are more popular winter sports, not just because you can see their

Gangrene was my valley: Skating's sleazy, corrupt, and more popular than ever. Too good for same-sex duos, or not good enough?

talents, but their faces.

Something about the festival of hockey masks, ski masks, and alien goggles becomes a cross between Space 1999 and a PlayStation game. Women have been added to bobsleigh and other works which is seen the state of the seen added to bobsleigh and other works which is seen the seen added to bobsleigh and other works which were the seen added to bobsleigh and other which were the seen added to bobsleigh and other works which were the seen added to bobsleigh and other works which were the seen added to bobsleigh and other works which were the seen added to bobsleigh and other works which were the seen added to bobsleigh and other works which were the seen added to bobsleigh and othe added to bobsleigh and other events, which is great. It's irrelevant whether it's a man or a woman flipping through the air like a frozen dolphin. I'm down with that. Or up.

But if it doesn't matter, then why does it matter indoors?
What will truly knock off what Newsweek calls the "gangrene"-infested International Skating Union, is the mind-blowing con-

fested International Skating Union, is the mind-blowing concept of same-sex figure skating.

NBC polls show that most would have wanted a three-way tie in figures skating. Kinky.

You'd think with the International Skating Union in such disarray, now would be the time to hit them with male-male and female-female couples competition.

I mean, after all it worked so well in ... (swirly flashback) there weren't any medals problems ... in 1998 ... canals ... more canals ... 1998 ... canals ... more canals . (waves off swirly flashback)

Anyway, ice dancing.

"Less than inspiring," according to Dick Button. "Some real technical drags," said Scott Hamilton, and from his co-anchor, Sandra Bezic: "Slightly untidy, but the roughness was exciting!"

Teckwithout being a marke I'd.

roughness was exciting!"

Tacky without being ornate, I'd add. Everybody fell down.

Using ropey costumes from Starmites and samples of Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech, the gold went to French skaters Gwendal Peizerat and Marina Anissina. Her last name is a wilindowne. So it this year (2002) rina Anissina. Her last name is a palindrome. So is this year (2002), this Olympics (XIX), and some guy in row 22 named Otto. Why did the winning pair use a speech about African American

freedom in a whites-mostly at-mosphere?

mosphere?

"It's something we are feeling in our heart. It should be not be expressed out loud," said the goldenhaired Gaul, after their MLK tribute was blared through speakers.

To be required the point of the print of the pr

ute was blared through speakers.
To borrow from David Chappelle of NBC, "Nothing says Black History like Utah."
No less subtle was the exciting yet brittle pair with giant stars of David sewn on their costumes. Nobody mentioned that it might have been in memory of September 5, 1972, when members of the Palestinian terrorist faction Black September killed 11 Israelis, five terrorists, and a German policeterrorists, and a German police-man at the Olympics. Nobody likes to talk about that when there are medals to quibble over and six

are means to quibble over and six guards per person and a lot of happy trinkets to sell.

The vaguely September 11 tribute by Russia's Lobacheya & Averbuch gained them the silver trinket. Nothing like faux-rended garments to wrangle a tear from one's eye. She fell down, but on purpose.

purpose.
Italian bronze came with lots

of drama. He fell down. The ball-room dancerly Fusar Poli might snag a gig teaching on cruise ships. I guess they "will Survive."

snlps. I guess they will Survive. Italy always does.
Frankly, I thought Naomi Lang and Peter Tchernyshev were the best. Their blues-inspired duet approached U.K. greats Torville & Dean in fluidity. They matched the music, one song was good enough, and nobody fell down.
The choices of music were other.

The choices of music were otherwise taste-free, but the preponderance of Michael Jackson sam-

derance of Michael Jackson sam-ples annoyed as much as the Bea-tles samples in the commercials (which Michael Jackson owns). [Note #2 from last week: David Icke, zany conspiracy theorist, also claims that a secret subsidiary of Mormons are actually Jehovah's Witnessee, which explains the Witnesses, which explains the Michael Jackson connection. Hey, stranger things have happened. What if you told someone 100 years ago that 460 million people would

ago that 460 million people would one day watch two guys in tights hug each other and careen down an icy tube? Would you call me crazy or start a church for me?]

At least the French have broken the Russian hold on gold in this category. Nice payoff for admitting to being paid off. The results are still going the way the cheating judges wanted.

(swirls, yada yada) ... cheating judges ... must keep control ... (cut

must keep control ... (cut

Am I on now? Let's switch to snowboarding, where hunky com-mentator Kevin Delaney sums it up. "Awesome. He really stuck it hard!"

I'm awake. Big Al gives one

I'm awake. Big Al gives one ringy-dingy.

Now, to men's hockey. A single punch or three. Nothing to report. They trounced some teams and have yet to pose shirtless.

Quite tame compared to the pros, almost civil. Why is it that the

women's hockey team can play nicer?
Hey, did you know that Katie
Couric makes \$45,000 a day covering the Olympics? What's the dif-ference between her and me? Three

decimal points and a good stylist.

So, can we applaud the people who trudge through, in, out, up, over and around snow in various shapes and sizes? Can we briskly

shapes and sizes? Can we briskly laud the achievement gained from doing a risky physical activity over and over and over again? Are the fig leaf ski caps ready?

Are things untarnished, or at least less tarnished? Is the balance of power reinstated via sporting non-violent competition? Are we going back to the war now? How going back to the war now? How about that nice Republican scan-

Well, no, it's not exactly juicy. Not sexy. Republican scandals usually involve other body fluids. ▼

Go Olympics cold turkey! Find local teams and stories at www.sportscomplex.org. Send news of your real-time, non-tape-delayed GLBT sports events to jimprov@hotmail.com.



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S. Africa furor over AIDS drugs continues

by Liz Highleyman

ontroversy continues to rage in South Africa over the provision of drugs to pre-vent and treat AIDS. Current South African policy

bars doctors from providing nevi-rapine (Viramune) to pregnant women or victims of sexual aswomen or victims of sexual as-sault. Studies have shown that the drug can cut the rate of mother-to-child HIV transmission by about half. The drug is only avail-able through 18 pilot study sites. Last year, the government's policy was challenged in a lawsuit

by a group of treatment advocates and medical providers demanding drug access for pregnant women. In December, Judge Chris Botha ruled in favor of the plaintiffs, but ruled in layor of the plaintiffs, but the government appealed the decision. On January 20 the Treatment Action Campaign announced that it had filed papers opposing the appeal. If Botha decides the appeal can go forward, it will likely not be heard until May. TAC has asked the court to order the government to make nevirance.

the government to make nevirap-ine available in the interim.

On January 22, KwaZulu-Natal
Premier Lionel Mtshali an-nounced that his province would provide nevirapine to pregnant women at public hospitals; KwaZulu is controlled by the Inkatha Freedom Party, which op-poses the ruling African National Congress. Said Mtshali, "[it is] a Congress. Said Mishah, It is a pregnant woman's prerogative to save her child from contracting the AIDS virus."

South African Health Minister Manto Tshabalala-Msimang re-

Manto Tshabalala-Msimang re-buked Mtshali for going against the national policy. "Taking nevi-rapine is not like swallowing an aspirin," she said.

In related news, Northern Cape health officials last month reprimanded hospital staff for providing AZT to a 9-month-old baby girl who was gang-raped last November.

In the wake of publicity sur-

November.

In the wake of publicity surrounding the case, Madyo said the treatment was a "mistake" made by a doctor who was unaware of the policy, and released a memo stating, "In accordance with the National Department of Health HIV/AIDS policy, antiretroviral drugs should not be issued to the victims of rape or sexual assault."

In his State of the Nation address on February 8, South

dress on February 8, South African President Thabo Mbeki said that while his government planned to step up its efforts against AIDS, it would focus on prevention, education, and treat-ment of opportunistic illnesses, ment of opportunistic indesses, not antiretroviral drugs. Mbeki indicated that the ongoing nevi-rapine pilot program would be evaluated and possibly expanded. But Tshabalala-Msimang said the ongoing evaluation would take more time. The South African government

has consistently claimed that anti-retroviral drugs are too costly and have not been proven safe and ef-fective. Mbeki has also expressed skepticism that HIV is the cause of AIDS. ▼

BAYAREA REPORTER LASSIFIEDS

LEGAL NOTICES

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO

PAYROLL TAX STATEMENT FILING DEADLINE FEBRUARY 28, 2002

FEBRUARY 28, 2002
Treaturer Suan Leal reminds all San Francisco business owners to be sure to file their 2001 Payroll Tax Statement and payment (if applicable) or Payroll Tax Exemption Declarations by Thursday, February 28, 2002. Statements and Exemption Declarations must be postmarked on or before February 28, received in the City Payment Center by 5:00 p.m. tad day, or filed on line by 11:59 p.m. or they will be considered delinquent. Please note that all businesses must file a Statement or Exemption Declarations, even though many will have no tax obligation. Business owners that fail to file their Statements or Exemption Declarations by the deadline will incur penalties and/or interest. Businesses can now save time by filing online at www.sfgov.org/onlineservices. Contact Taxpayer Assistance at (415) 554-4400, email the department at Treasurer_TaxCollector@ic.ic.caus, or visit the Office of the Treasurer & Tax Collector in City Hall Room 140 for more information.

VACANCY
The Sunshine Task Force has one opening. The vacant seat must be filled by a member of the public who is physically handicapped, and who has demonstrated interest in or has experience in the issues of citizen access and participation in local government for a new 2-year term ending April 27, 2004. All applicants must be residents of San Francisco, unless otherwise stated.

otherwise stated.

Interested persons may obtain an application form from the Clerk of the Rules Committee, I Dr. Carlfon B. Goodlett Place, Room 244, San Francisco, CA 94102-4689. Additional information and an application may be obtained by accessing the city's web site:

www.clafca.us/bidupren/vacanies*
SOLICITATION OF A REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS for a public access services provider. Applications are available at the City's web site under the Concessions and Leases (http://sunter.clafca.us/pbids.nsf). Applications are due by 5:00 pm March 29, 2002. Pre-application conference to be held at 11:00 am, March 8, 2002 in the Resource Room, 875 Stevenson St., 5th Eli, San Francisco, CA, 94103. Final day for clarification of questions is March 13, 2002. Questions call: 554-4545 or mail RFG-Public-Access-Provider@fig.gov.org
Dept. of Telecommunications and Information Services
City and County of San Francisco
THE SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC LIBRARY is seeking photos of places and faces of the Ocean View Merced and Ingleaded districts past and present. Photographs of the changing physical landscape (streets, house, local businesses, schools, parks, etc.) as well as family and dommunity life of OMI are underrepresented in the library's San Francisco History Center collections and are vital to the history of the City. The Ocean View branch library at Randolph and Ramell streets is hosting a photo day on Sunday, Peb. 24 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. At that time, the Library's "Shades of Ocean View" project invites residents to bring in their family albums and photo collections to be copied while they wait. The photos will be added to the San Francisco Public Library's photo archive and will be exhibited in the community. For information or to make an appointment, call Nina Sazevich at (415) 752-2483.

The City and County of San Francisco encourages public outreach. Articles are translated into several languages to provide better public access. The newspaper makes every effort to translate the articles of general interest correctly. No liability is assumed by the City and County of San Francisco or the newspapers for errors and omissions.

STATEMENT FILE NO.254459 The following person(s) are doing business as: SpacebeZine. 1571 Underwood Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an Individual signed Dale Edgar Zink. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or nameson January 22, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/22/07. 01/22/02. JAN 31, FEB 7, 14, 21, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254903 STATEMENT FILE NO.254903
The following person(s) are doing business as: All Star Framing Co. 1082 Howard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Jennifer Torres. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2001. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/06/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF USE OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME. FILE NO: 213081 The following person (persons) have abandoned the use of the ficitious business name knowns. Tina's Laundromat. Located at: 636Chenery Street, SanFrancisco, Ca. 94131. The ficitious mane referred to above was filed in the County of San Franciscon: 4/10/1997. This business was conducted by: a Husband and Wife: Nicholas C. Vratimos and Cathryn M. Vratimos. W. Vratimos

M. Vratimos. JAN. 31, FEB 7, 14, 21, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254117 DIATEMENT FILE NO.254117 The following person(s) are doing business as: Blueblood Birds. 1032 Irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94122. This business is conducted by an individual signed Kathy M. Ritchie. The registran(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business nameor names on January 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/10/02. 01/10/02. JAN 31, FEB 7, 14, 21, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254644 STATEMENT FILE NO. 254644
The following person(s) are doing business as: (1) Synapse Chiropractic, (2) Synapse Health Center 4223 Geary Blvd. S.F., CA 94118. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Allen Bagherian Chiropractic Inc., President. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/01/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 012/97/2002.
FEB 7, 14, 21,28, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254728 STATEMENT FILE NO.254728
The following person(s) are doing business as: Fugi Florist 3606 Taraval Ave. S.F., CA 94116. This business is conducted by an Individual signed Fain Chun Yuen. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 01/31/02. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. ano.13,12,002.
FEB 7, 14, 21,28, 2002

of San Prancisco, Ca. 000 1,3 1,2002.

FEB 7,14, 21,28, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALLIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COLINTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.540137 in the Matter of the Application of Kevin Paul Baguio. For change of Name. The application of Kevin Paul Baguio for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Kevin Paul Baguio has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to -Nedjula Pauline Baguio. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 12th day of March at 9:00am., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. change of name should not be granted FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.253961 STATE MENT FILE NU.253954 The following person(s) are doing busine as: Courtney's Delicatessen. 712 irving Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94108. This business is conducted by an individual signed Courtney Schrobsdorff. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on NA. The statement was filed with the City and Countries San Expraision Co. pp. 0.1040. County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/04/02. JAN 31, FEB 7, 14, 21, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254514 STATEMENT FILE NO.254514
The following person(s) are doing business as: Night Honkey. 2223 Union Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94123. This business Is conducted by a limited liability company signed Patricia Ann Miller. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed flictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 012402.
JAN 31, FEB 7, 14, 21, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254543 STATEMENT FILE NO. 254543
The following person(s) are doing business as: Jocktar Delia Coffee 1255 post St. Ste. 200 S.F., CA 94109. This business is conducted by an individual signed Nor K. Haddad. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and CountyofSan Francisco, Ca. on 01,25,2002.
FEB 7, 14, 21,28, 2002 STATEMENT FILE NO.254549

The following person(s) are doing business as: Tina's Laundramat. 636 Chenery Street, San Francisco, Ca. 9433. This business is conducted by an individual signed Pat Sahagun. Theregistrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictiflous business name or names on January 25, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 01/25/02 01/25/02. JAN 31, FEB 7, 14, 21, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254767 STATEMENT FILE NO.254767
The following person(s) are doing business as: Surges Janitorial 1151 Wisconsin St. 44 S.F., CA, 49107. This business is conducted by an individual signed Simon W. Taylor. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on 02/01/02. The statement was filed with the City and CountyofSanFrancisco, Ca. on 02/01/2010 02/01/2002. FEB 7, 14, 21, 28, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254892 STATEMENT FILE NO.254892
The following person(s) are doing business as: Patent Law Offices Of Michael E. Woods. 1.04 Collins Street, San Francisco, co. 94118. This business is conducted by an individual signed Michael E. Woods. The registran(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed flictitious business name or names on February 01, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of SanFrancisco, Ca. on 0205/2002.

02/05/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254229 STATEMENT FILE NO.254229
The following person(s) are doing business as: Group 41, Limited & Out With Friends.
41. Seward Street #3, San Francisco, Ca.
94114. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Joel Micah Karr and Lyles Micha Dickerson. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 0.114/2002.

01/14/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254856 The following person(s) are doing busine as: Gentle Star Medspa. 1105 Bosworth Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94131. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Thomas R. Ellis MD Inc. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca.on 02/04/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254860 STATEMENT FILE NOT.254860
The following person(s) are doing business as: Emeles Design. 203 Noe Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Phillip Lyle Faggard. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 4, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Canno 2074/2002 Ca. on 02/04/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254931 STATEMENT FILE NO.25493.1
The following person(s) are doing business as: Panta Rei. 431 Columbus Avenue, San Francisco, Ca. 94133. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Alessandro lacobell, vice-president. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 0206/2002.

02/06/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254975 STATEMENT FILE NO. 254975
The following person(s) are doing business as: USA Horizon Management, Inc. 1746
Post Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94115.
"This business is conducted by a corporation signed signed Osamu Horikoshi, president. The registran(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 0207/7002. 02/07/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254973 STATEMENT FILE NO.254973
The following person(s) are doing business as: Thomas Harley Bond Design. 1026
Folsom Street #11, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Thomas Harley Bond. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/07/2002. 02/07/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254995 STATEMENT ITLE NOT.234979
The following person(s) are doing business as: Studio3Q, 182 Howard Street #425, San Francisco, Ca. 94105. This business is conducted by an individual signed Laura Grace Lee. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 3Q, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Cand. 2019.87202.

Ca. on 02/08/2002: FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540133

In the Matter of the Application of Juan Ramon Diaz. For change of Name. The application of Juan Ramon Diaz for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that Juan Ramon Diaz has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to Jo Ann Diaz. Now therfore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 2nd day of April 2002 at 9:00am., of said day to show cause with the application for change of name should not be granted.

STATEMENT FILE NO.255032 STATEMENT FILE NU.255032
The following person(s) are doing business as: Teutonic, inc. 330 Townsend Street, Suite #109, San Francisco, Ca. 94107.
This business is conducted by a corporatio signed signed Chris Dolan, corporate officer. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filled with the City and Countries for Exercise Co. Co. 2009/2001 County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/08/2002. FEB. 14, 21, 28, MAR. 7, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.255154 STATEMENT FILE NO. 2551.54
The following person(s) are doing business as: Texture: 1.14 Eureka Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94.114. This business is conducted by an individual signed Bethany M. Clark. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed flictitious business mame or names on February 13, 2002. The statement was file with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 0.2/13/2002.
FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254900 STATEMENT FILE NO. 254900
The following person(s) are doing business as: foodsavercloseouts. 568 Howard Street 3rd Floor, San Francisco, Ca. 94.105. This business is conducted by a corporation signed Dolores Silva VP Finance and Admin. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 28, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Can on 20/05/2002. Ca.on 02/05/2002. FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254890 STATEMENT FILE NO. 254990
The following person(s) are doing business as: New Spaces, 741 Tehama Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94103. This business is conducted by an individual signed Gillian Sophie Ellenby. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or mames on February 5, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on Oz/05/2002.
FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.255172 STATEMENT FILE NO.255172
The following person(s) are doing business as: Yummy Express. 683 Geary Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94102. This business is conducted by an individual signed Yu-Mez Han. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/14/2002. FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

FEB. 21, 29, MAN. 7, 14, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.255066

The following person(s) are doing business as: D'Jon Notes And Cash Flows. 491

Marietta Drive, San Francisco, Ca. 94127. This business is conducted by an individual signed David Jon Wing. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on N/A. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/11/2002. of San Francisco, Ca.on 02/11/2002. FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.254848 The following person(s) are doing business as: Thanh Trang Production. 876 Girard Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94134. This business is conducted by an individual signed Trang Thanh Do. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on February 4, 2002. The statemen was filed with the City and County of San Francisco. Ca. on 02/04/2002.

STATEMENT FILE NO.255165 STATEMENT FILE NO. 255165
The following person(s) are doing business
as: Latker Design Solutions. 80 Uranus
Terrace, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This
business is conducted by an individual
signed Craig Latker. The registrant(s)
commenced to transact business under the
above listed fictitious business name or
names on February 13, 2002. The
statement was filed with the City and
County of San Francisco, Ca. on
2013/2002

02/13/2002. FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.255191 THE MENT FILE NO. 255191
The following person(s) are doing business as: Zwanette Design. 1777 Yosemite Street. #115. San Francisco, Ca. 94124. This business is conducted by an individual signed Karrin Design. The registrandiscommenced to transact business same rich above listed fictitious business same anames on IVA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02,149,200. EAR. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002
STATEMENT FILE M. 255224

FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002
STATEMENT FILE NO.255238
The following person(s) are doing business as: Squat & Gobble Cafe #1. 237 Fillmore Street, San Firancisco, Ca. 94117. This business is conducted by a limited liability company signed issa J. Sweidan Squat & Gobble Cafe, LLC. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business name or names on January 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 02/15/2002.
FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002
STATEMENT FILE NO.255240
The following person(s) are doing business

STATEMENT FILE NU.255240
The following person(s) are doing business as: Squat & Gobble Cafe #3.3600-16th Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94114. This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed Issa J. Sweiden, Squat & Gobble Cafe, LLC. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January T, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on Q/15/2004. Francisco, Ca. on 02/15/2002. FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

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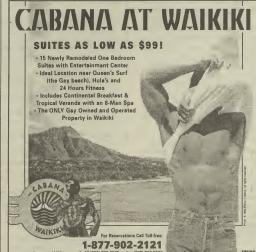
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STATEMENT FILE NO.255257 The following person(s) are doing business as: Young's Alteration, 2192 Mission Street, San Francisco, Ca. 94110. This business is conducted by an individual signed Stella Fan. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business name or manes on NIA. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca. on 0219/2002. FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

STATEMENT FILE NO.255239 STATEMENT FILE NO.255239
The following person(s) are doing business as: Squat & Gobble Cafe #2. 1428 Haight Street, San Francisco, Ca. 9431.7 This business is conducted by a limited partnership signed lass al. Sweiden, S & G Restaurant Management LLC. The registrant(s) commenced to transact business under the above listed fictitious business name or names on January 1, 2002. The statement was filed with the City and County of San Francisco, Ca.on 02/15/2002. FEB. 21, 28, MAR. 7, 14, 2002

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CAILIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO FILE NO.540153 FRANCISCO FILE NO. 540153 in the Matter of the Application of Intava Anna Phethsaya, Allen Bunya Phethsaya, for change of Name. The application of Intava Anna Phethsaya, Allen Bunya Phethsaya for change of name, having been filed in Courc, and it appearing from said application that Intava Anna Phethsaya has filed an application prehabsaya has filed an application proposing that his/her name be changed to -Intava Anna Wong, Allen Bunya Wong, Now therfore, It is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before this Court in Department 218 on the 29th day of April at 9,00m., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. not be granted. FEB. 21, 28, MAR 7, 14, 2002

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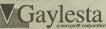
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Love and death in the big, bad city Author Tom Spanbauer discusses his epic novel 'In the City of Shy Hunters.'

One for the boys Carol Channing charms the SF Gay Men's Chorus.

page 28



Ann-Margretmania Live onstage at Castro; phones in 'Whorehouse.'

page 27



BAY A REA REPORTER ARTS& ENTERTAIN

Vol. 32 • No. 8 • 21 February 2002

Queer Jitterbugs' dance party at LGBT Community Center



by Gary Pedler

ake the craze for Swing dance that has been sweeping the country in recent years, give it a gay twist, and what have you got? Queer Jitterbugs! This fast-growing San Francisco group offers an exciting array of classes and events designed to bring Swing to the gay community.

I recently dropped in on one of the big dance parties Queer Jitterbugs holds on the last Saturday of every month, and was surprised to find over a hundred people getting ready to cut a rug. Before the evening got underway, I had a chance to talk with Burnie Cipson, the founder of Queer Jitterbugs. Burnie was dressed for the role of Swing aficionado in clothes from the era: high-waisted Hollywood style slacks, two-toned shoes, and one of those short, fat ties you see in old black-and-white movies. I asked Burnie how he came to start Queer Jitterbugs.

"I took some classes in Swing and started going to the local Lindy Hop Swing clubs," he said, "but these were primarily straight. I'd page 30 >

page 30 ▶

METRONOME BALLROOM OFFERS SAME-SEX DANCE CLASSES

by Alex Robertson **Textor**

allroom dancing is a very hetero-sexual activity. The moves made and the roles demanded are gender-regulat-ed to an extreme. This blanketing heterosex-uality usually produces a hostile setting for lesbians and gay men interested in particilesbians and gay men interested in partici-pating, perhaps especially for women who want to lead, and men who want to follow. At the same time, partner dancing roles as a form of exchange and connection can also be attractive to many lesbians and gay men. The heterosexual presumption in partner dancing is completely ingrained into most

instruction protocols. Metronome instruc-tor Brandee Selck observes that most ball-rooms still refer to dance-floor roles in gen-dered terms. But at the Metronome, the em-phasis is on "leaders and followers," and not "men and women." Above and beyond the likelihood that many notatical ways depress." likelihood that many potential queer dancers will hunger for partners of the same sex, the terms "man" for "leader" and "woman" for "follower" are extremely alienating.

The Metronome Ballroom in San Fran

cisco offers an antidote to the exclusionary page 30 ▶

during dance class at Metronome Ballroom



SECOND OF TWO SECTIONS

by Roberto Friedman and Lincoln Logs

earty congratulations go out to great gay actor Sir lan McKellen on being Oscar-nominated for Best Suporting Actor for his performance of **Gandalf** in Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring. Kudos go also to SF LGBT Pride Parade go also to SF LGB1 Pride Parade for nabbing the knighted one as celebrity grand marshal this year (June 30). Now, why is it that the role of the wise old sage in movies is always given to a great gay elder? We're talking McKellen as the wizened wizard, we're talking Sir Alec Guinness as sagacious wag Obi-Wan Kenobe in Star Wars. When Torch Song Trilogy's Harvey Fierstein is in his dotage, will he be playing Moses? "Let my people come

Here at the arts desk, we loved Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring as the all-boy romp that it was. We don't care if the title is a little overdeter-mined, or if gossip's eminence gris Michael Musto swore that if one more character in the film held up a ring a dramatic

close-up, he'd have to switch to the Home Shop-ping Channel. We're Oscar-root-ing for J.R.R. Tolkien, Sir Ian and all good hobbits everywhere

Out



Sir Ian McKellen plays Gandalf as a great gay elder in Lord of the Rings

Gossip true, gossip false: It falls
to your queer Uncle Out
There to dispel the unfounded rumor going

Channing's

dreamt up, under which bonnet or habit, but we are

here to tell you it's as false as

around town that stage star Carol

nounced appearance with the San Francis-co Gay Men's Chorus on Monday night is a hoax. We're not

sure where this nasty canard was

Carol's eyelashes. In fact, as you can see in this issue, the enchanting Miss Channing granted the BAR a sweet and candid interview

Tickets are still available for Giving Back, 8 p.m. on Feb. 25 at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, 3301 Lyon St. For tickets, call (415) 865-3650. Info at w.sfgmc.org.

President's date

Gay American historian Jonathan Ned Katz opens his new book, Love Stories: Sex Between Men Before

Homosexuality (Chicago), with the tale of the first encounter between new-to-Springfield lawyer Abraham Lincoln and merchant Joshua Fry Speed in 1837. Hearing the price of bedding, Lincoln asked for credit until the end

of the year "Speed then sponta-neously proposed a no-cost arrangement: 'I have a very large room, and a very large double-bed in it,

which you are perfectly welcome to share with me if you choose.' Lincoln immediately accepted the space in bed beside comely Speed.

Their sleeping arrangements blossomed into an intimate friend-

ship."
We always knew Honest Abe could turn a trick and a phrase. Here he is on the manliest man of four brothers who were neigh-bors: "He was the big buck at the lick." Lincoln, in fact, composed a poem about the four **Grigshy brothers** Reuben, Charles, Billy and Nat: "Reuben and Charles have married two girls/ But Billy has married a boy/ The girls he had tried on every side/ But none could he get to agree/ All was in vain, he went home again/ And since he is married to Natty."

Well, the meter's a little off, but we get it. Katz declares his project is "to rediscover men's native form of ardor." He writes, "We may find it useful to pluck men or women out of their own sexual and affectional worlds into our present kingdom of the gay, straight, and bi. But I wish to locate the inti-macies of Lincoln, Speed, and other men within the erotic and emotional institutions of their own time." As long as they're bunkin' down together.

Rinse cycle

In the once-a-media-darling, In the once-a-media-darling, always-a-media-darling dept., former Duran Duran and Missing Persons guitarist Warren Cuccurullo is quoted in Spin magazine as observing, "My pecs aren't the only thing that's huge!"

In a delightful feature entitled, "What '80s

Pop Stars Will Do
For You," Cuccurullo offers to answer fans, "ican "rights" tions "via his website's videocam

while he's naked in the shower. He'll also let you purchase items of Duran Duran-era designer clothing he as worn on televi-

signer clothing the has worn on television." Judging by the size of the fig-leaf black box on the picture from his webcam, we'd say the clothing has lots of "leg-room."

Other stars of '80s pop who have to pay the bills include Shriekback ("this nearly forgotten British art-funk trio will

Joshua Fry Speed



record a reunion album and mention you on the sleeve if you contribute") and **Pat DiNizio** of the Smithereens ("Pat will perform acoustically in your living room, bedroom, or bathroom as 'your own personal slave' — if you have a spare \$2,000." Pricey.)

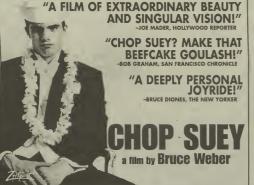
Royal fleecing

Out There is not ashamed to ay we have a few friends in the escort biz. But recently we received an entreaty from the **King of Es- corts** himself, an agent wellknown for his services. This gentleman provides introductions to any number of the industry's top any number of the industry's top porn stars for a hefty \$2,500 per year — reduced to a bargain heft of \$1,500 in the wake of 9/11. In-troductions only, you'll note, Mr. Man having already done time for pandering. Subsequent to the in-troduction, further negotiations with the party of your choice will determine whether you're escort-ed to the opera or the bedroom, or both. It depends on what you

What piqued us was the plea for further financial assistance. It seems that the tables he's pur-chased so that his band of boners can attend the porn industry's 4th Annual **GayAV Awards** (March 22 at the Universal Hilton Hotel in LA) are frighteningly expensive. Sponsor one of the tables, and you, too, can sit with ruby-cheeked porn star Billy Brandt and "the gang," and, of course, at-tend the pre-party. With what these escorts take down, you'd think they could go dutch to parade their wares at the year's most glittering gathering of escorts.



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Celebrity survivor

Ann-Margret plays the Castro Theatre

by Tavo Amador

nn-Margret has been a star for 40 years, a span few would have predicted when she first came to the public's at-tention in 1961. She has survived bad films, bad reviews, bad accidents, and her husband's serious illness, and has triumphed, earning the grudging respect of critics. The public took to her immediately and continues to do so. Her stage tour of The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas has been a major box-office success. She began as a pretty ingenue, then re-vealed a sexy, seductive side. She appears in person at the Castro Theatre on February 22 for a showing of one of her most en-joyable films, Viva Las Vegas. Four more of her movies will be screened on February 23 and 24. Born (1941) Ann-Margret Olson in Stockholm, Sweden, her

Olson in Stockholm, Sweden, her family moved to the Chicago area shortly after World War II. She studied singing and dancing, and made her screen debut in 1961's Pocketful of Miracles, Frank Capra's awful remake of his own Lady For a Day, a Damon Runyon fable about Apple Annie (Bette Davis), whose daughter (Ann-Margret) is whose daughter (Ann-Margret) is in finishing school. The film failed at the box office. But her steamy rendition of "Bachelor in Paradise" at the 1962 Oscar ceremony created a sensation.

She remained wholesome while attending 1962's State Fair and sighing Bye, Bye Birdie (1963), both musicals, the latter a big hit. But her red hair and voluptuous figure made it clear her ingenue days would not last long. She was one of *The Pleasure Seekers* and *Kitten With a Whip* (both 1964), both poor, the latter earning her

considerable critical scorn before becoming a camp classic. She ended that year with Elvis Presley in *Viva Las Vegas*, a smash and lots of fun. She was, in fact, The King's most impressive leading lady.

Escape to Rome

In 1965 she was stuck knowing Bus Riley's Back in Town, from a poor script by William Inge and an unsuccessful attempt to make Michael Parks another James Dean. The next two that year were better: Once a Thief with Alain Delon, and Norman Jewison's excellent The Cincinnati Kid opposite Steve McQueen. However, the subsequent batch did nothing for site Steve McQueen. However, the subsequent batch did nothing for her: The Swinger, Made in Paris, riding Stagecoach, and visiting Murderers' Row (all 1966). The following year she went to Italy for Il Tigre and Sette Somini e Un Cervello (Seven Men and One Brain), and Il Profeta. In 1970, she was wasted in Stanley Kramer's poor R.P.M. before facing C.C. and Company.

and Company.
Mike Nichols rescued her, cast MIKE NICHOIS rescued her, casting her as Bobbie in Carnal Knowledge (1971). As the model who falls in love with the self-centered, chauvinistic Jack Nicholson, she made audiences and critical the control of the contr son, she made authences and critics sit up. The part — a low self-esteem doormat — was not new: Shelley Winters and Shirley MacLaine had cornered the mar-ket on such women. But she gave ket on such women. But she gave it a unique twist, a passive-aggressive anger, that stayed with the viewer. At 30, her beauty was more luscious then ever, and she showed how insufficient such a gift was in coping with life. She received a Best Supporting Actress Academy Award nomination, losing to Cloris Leachman in The Last Picture Show. Last Picture Show.
But it was back to poor mater-

ial in The Train Robbers and Funerale a Los Angeles (The Outside Man), both 1973, and 1975's Folies Bourgeoises (The Twist). But as the mother in the film version of The Who's rock opera Tommy, she got excellent reviews and a Best Actress Oscar nomination, this time losing to Louise Fletcher in One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest. Sadly, worthy material eluded her, as evidenced by Joseph Andrews and The Last Remake of Beau Geste (both 1977), Magic and The Cheap Detective (1978), The Villain (1979), Middle Aged Crazy (1980), Return of the Soldier and Lookin' to Get Out (both 1982). ial in The Train Robbers and Fu-

She had filmed successful tele rision specials, and in 1984 that medium offered her Blanche DuBois in A Streetcar Named Desire, a touching performance, despite not looking remotely like a faded beauty. Then it was back to movies with Twice in a Lifetime (1985), the exciting 52 Pick-Up (1986), and A Tiger's Tale (1987). For television, she and Claudette Colbert were The Two Mrs. Grenvilles (1987), a ratings triumph. As the ex-showgirl who "accidentally" kills her society husband, she was superb. She alternated between the big and small screen, with the latter giving her more interesting work, notably opposite Julie Andrews in Our Sons (1991), as mothers whose sons are lovers. vision specials, and in 1984 that whose sons are lovers.

Grumpy and grumpier

In movies she had A New Life (1988) and was in Disney's disastrous musical Newsies (1992), before joining Jack Lemmon and Walter Matthau in Grumpy Oid Men (1993), as the object of their desire. She was again splendid desire. She was again splendid, and the film a hit. For TV, she was

page 34



Ann-Margret is a beauty who becomes ever more luscious



Oh, brothel

'The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas'

by Richard Dodds

ndistinct is not a word I think I've ever used before to de-scribe a performance, but that may be the best word to describe Ann-Margret's performance at the Golden Gate. If anything, it's Blanche Du Bois that comes to Bianche Du Bois that comes to mind rather than the role Ann-Margret is actually playing: the straight-talking madam of *The* Best Little Whorehouse in Texas. Ann-Margret once played Ten-nessee Williams' dreamily discon-

nected heroine, and you do have to wonder if dreamily disconnected isn't also a description of the per-former herself. She wafts through this otherwise adequate produc-tion, making scant connections with her onstage colleagues, and displays little interest in creating an actual character. Her mobility seems cautiously limited (understandable, perhaps, given her safe-ty record), while her singing voice is understated to a fault.

Yes, she does look great be-neath her mane of Titian hair and in her glittery Bob Mackie gowns. Not that the proprietor of the eponymous whorehouse, described in song as a "lil' ole bitty pissant country place," would be dressed like that, but let's not be-



Ann-Margret doesn't connect

grudge a girl her glamour-star en-

Unfortunately, Ann-Margret Unfortunately, Ann-Margret doesn't go on to supply a star turn which could be reason for reviving this 1978 musical. When it was new, the story of a celebrated brothel outside Austin was a Broadway novelty with its shit-kicking humor and a countrified score. That randy energy has dissipated the bir jokes now get score. That randy energy has dis-sipated, the big jokes now get barely a chuckle, and while sever-al of Carole Hall's songs have re-tained their vitality, only a couple are memorably performed.

Another lost asset is Tommy Tune's lively direction and chore-ography. Thommie Walsh, Tune's ography. Ihommie Walsh, Iune's assistant on the original production, hasn't pulled off the same slick feat here. The two musical highlights are those that most retain Tune's imprint: "The Aggie Song," with its swaggering, shirtless football players; and "The Sidestep," that creates a dance version of talking out of both sides of your mouth. your mouth.

Ed Dixon, as the sidestepping Texas governor, is one of the few performers who really connect with a role. Gary Sandy, late of WKRP in Cincinnati, does create where in Chrimman, does create a distinct character as the gruff sheriff who's usually in a goddamn bad mood. His soft spot is his unspoken love for Miss Mona, though Ann-Margret is a warformer.

Ann Margret is a warformer.

Ann-Margret is a performer who brings forth considerable goodwill from audiences. It's a shame, then, that neither she nor this production are able to capitalize on it.

The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas will run through March 10 at the Golden Gate Theatre Tickets are \$34-\$77, Call 512



NO ONE UNDER 18 ADMITTED

Back where she belongs

Carol Channing to appear with SF Gay Men's Chorus

by Adam Sandel

ome performers are known for playing a wide variety of roles, while others seem to play themselves in every role. But in the rarest of cases, the performer and the role merge so completely that they are forever

completely that they are forever after perceived as one.

Rex Harrison will always be Professor Henry Higgins; Yul Brynnerwill forever be the King of Siam; and the character of Dolly Levi, the scheming matchmaker from the Broadway musical Hello Dolly!, shall now and forever be Carol Channing.

The wide-eved comedienne

The wide-eyed comedienne first took Broadway by storm in 1949 as the gold-digging flapper Lorelei Lee in Gentlemen Prefer Blondes. With 1964's Hello Dolly!, she became a musical theatre icon and went on to play some 5,000 performances of her signature

The highlight of Channing's eclectic film career is the high-camp musical *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, which earned her a 1967 Golden Globe Award and an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actress.

The 81-year-old Broadway leg-end returns to San Francisco to star with the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus in the one-night only benefit concert Giving Back: Tomorrow's Child on Monday, February 25 at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre.

In a recent interview, Channing explained why she's excited about performing with the Gay Men's Chorus and returning to the city where she grew up, which she still considers home.

"I've sung with the Gay Men's Chorus before," she said in the raspy baritone that's inspired several generations of female impersonators. "To tell the truth, from sonators. "To tell the truth, from kindergarten on, I could never sing in the same key as the girls, and I could never sing in the same key as the boys. But I can sing with the Gay Men's Chorus. We're all in the same range, so it's heaven."

Channing has always had a loyal following among gay men, and she's very proud of that distinction.

"They know who's really funny and who isn't," she said. "People who don't spend a lot of time with gay men don't realize that, but it's true. When they laugh, I know I got the timing just right. They would always come to previews and sit in the balcony and cheer and carry on, but on opening night they'd calm down and behave themselves because that's when the critics are there. And that's respect. So the least I can do is sing with the

A star is born

Although she was born in Seattle, Channing said, "I don't re-

member anything but San Francisco. A matter of weeks after I was born, we moved to my Grandma's house in Seacliff on El Camino del Mar, and that's where I remember first realizing I was

alive."

As a fourth grader at Commodore Sloat Grammar School, Channing discovered her true calling. "A friend of mine nominated me for Student Body Secretary, and I had to get up in front of the school and tell them why they should vote for me. Well, I couldn't think of a single reason. So I did an imitation of our principal, Miss Berard. I did her funny walk and her funny voice, and I walk and her funny voice, and I won by a landslide!"

At that moment, Channing's

At that moment, Channing's future goal was set. "That's when I discovered that this is what I will lay down my life for," she said. "You see, I was an only child, but when people laughed with me, we were all together. I wasn't an only child any more."

The Student Body Secretary perfected her comedic craft read-

perfected her comedic craft reading the minutes each week. "We did three assemblies every Friday. At the first one, I was kind of off, at the second one I got more laughs, and by the third one I was flying! That's when I learned the value of a long run." Channing graduated from Lowell High School, where the auditorium is now called The Carol Channing Theatre. "When my son Chan was going through San Francisco, he stopped by Lowell and checked it out. He said, "No, mother, they don't take depart the circum when you'r take down the sign when you're not in

When she moved to New York to seek her fame and fortune Channing was terribly homesick "When my parents came to visit, they brought me a paper bag of San Francisco fog," she said.

Show must go on

A legendary trooper, Channing only missed one of her 5,000 Hello Dolly! performances. During a 1998 tour of the show, she was struck with food poisoning in Kalamazoo. "I was throwing up all own the slace and the men in the over the place, and the men in the orchestra pit didn't appreciate it," she said. "I didn't want to leave,

she said. "I didn't want to leave, but they took me to the hospital." Channing has earned her place in both Broadway and American history. The loyal Democrat appeared at JFK's inauguration, and Jackie Kennedy and her two children made their first post-assassination public appearance seeing her perform in Hello Dolly!

During the Watergate scandal,



Carol Channing, early in her caree

Channing earned top billing on Nixon's White House Enemies List. "At first I was so upset I cried my eyes out," she said. "But my friends in the press said, 'Don't worry, it's the best thing that could happen.' I'd sung 'Hello Lyndon' to LBJ at the Democratic Convention, and I guess Nixon didn't like my singing voice or something." something.

Over the past four years Chan-ning has been writing her autobi-ography, A Memoir of Sorts, which is due in bookstores in September. The book is filled with her memories of San Francisco, and she's looking forward to returning here. "I grew up crazy in love with

page 40 ▶

Troubled mind

'The Eviction' at the Magic Theatre

by Richard Dodds

laywright Victor Lodato has said in an interview that he finds the language of schizo-phrenics to be both beautiful and upsetting. In *The Eviction*, his new play at the Magic Theatre, he is only partially successful at com-municating this extreme duality that so fascinates him. While the central character in *The Eviction* exhibits classic symp-

While the central character in *The Eviction* exhibits classic symptoms of schizophrenia, including delusions, paranoia, and a controlling internal voice, this portrait of a man on the edge is in fact missing an edge of its own. There's not much going on here that feels particularly revelatory, and even within that context, the dialogue only intermittently dialogue only intermittently yanks us into this man's world.

His name is Lou, and he lives alone in a dingy one-room apart-ment where he subsists on canned food, frets about his imaginary cat, and uses the telephone as his final lifeline to the outside world. This month, again, he has spent his meager welfare check on things other than gas or electricity or, most pivotally, the rent.

As he tries to focus on his im-

pending eviction, which he un-happily realizes will make him like all those other homeless crazies wandering the streets, a character known as the Reader coolly provides an ongoing narration from a little desk at the side. But there is a point where the Reader drops this passive role and becomes an advocate for actions, bringing forth a burst of ritualized vio-

As Lou, David Gunderman has admirably mastered what is basically a stream-of-consciousness monologue. But rather than sug-

Chrystene Ells and her puppeteers add a few sparks to The Eviction

gesting the unnerving or eerily observant rants and musings of a schizophrenic, Gunderman creates a character more akin to the childlike mentally handicapped characters who turn up in movies and television. It may well be by

and television. It may well be by design.

As the considerably enigmatic Reader, Howard Swain delivers a supercilious storyteller who sits with cat-like superiority behind an impressively huge tome of fateful information. Swain also provides from his narrator's desk the voices for two people he talks to on the phone: his uninterested mother, and a gruff poet he ran-

domly meets on a sex chat-line.
These phone-call moments provide some needed variety in the heavy flow of words. Chrystene Ells and her fellow puppeteers add a few more sparks with two creatures that material-ize from the man's fevered imagi-

nation.
With the main character's impending homelessness, *The Eviction* does give a face to the anonymous legions living out there. But the play is not meant as a social treatise. It's a journey into a troubled mind. Still, too often it is a trip that had me asking, "Are we there yet?" ▼

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Professional arrangements

Theatre Rhino signs with Actor's Equity

by Richard Dodds

heatre Rhinoceros, already known as the world's longest-running gay and les-bian theater, has added another feather to its cocked chapeau. The almost-25-year-old theater has

signed an agreement with Actors' Equity As-sociation making it the first gay theater in the country to employ pro-fessional actors under a

paid seasonal union agreement.

The just-concluded Design for Living was the first show under

the new agreement, which requires a certain number of Equity performers in each production and provides them with a minimum salary and health benefits. For most actors in the Bay Area, these basics are hard to come by.

Backstage

"I really think the theater comnunity needs to wake up to the fact that you have to create jobs if you want to keep a healthy talent pool," said Doug Holsclaw, Theatre Rhino's artistic director. "The cost of living in this town has caused quite an exodus of talent."

The upcoming Women Behind Bars, opening March 16, will be the second production under the MBAT (or Modified Bay Area Theater) contract. Originally, the world premiere of Kate Bornstein's

Strangers in Paradox was to fill the slot, but it has been delayed to next season in the aftermath of Sept. 11.

"Back in October, when we had to make a decision, I just didn't think the play was going to get a fair shake," Holsclaw said. "It's ultimately about cutting away parts of yourself in order to be re-

born as something else, which is very much central to Kate's journey as a transsexual, but the violence is metaphorical. Even so, people are still getting their throats slashed,

and I thought people would be so distracted that they

tracted that they wouldn't get what the piece is about."

Tom Eyen's Women Behind Bars, its replacement, is a campy chestnut that has sport with prison movies. "I thought it was just a fun project," Holsclaw said. "We try to be very co-gender here, but there just aren't that many plays that have roles for 10 women. So this is also a play that will offer a lot of employment to actresses."

Russell Blackwood, who had been set to direct the Bornstein play, has stayed on to direct this quite-different project. "But you know, it's right up Russell's alley," Holsclaw said. "He does *Shockto*berfest! every year at the Exit Theatre, getting these old plays from the 19th century that were shock-

ing back then."
Actually, when Holsclaw and Blackwood reread Women Behind Bars, they found references that could startle if not shock today's audiences. "It was written in the '70s, and it has this Archie Bunker mentality with racial slurs and sexual stuff. We've found a way to deal with that that's very funny."
And, this being Theatre Rhino, the play will also get a gay goose. "We're really mining it for the lesbian content," Holsclaw said. "I think this is going to be a very fresh look at the play."
A final Rhino note: While the world premiere of Strangers in Paradox has been delayed, the theater still has another world premiers complete the progress of the property of the premiers of the progress of the pr

Paradox has been delayed, the theater still has another world premiere coming up. It's by the author of The Last Hairdresser, and that happens to be Holsclaw himself. Although Knuckle and Crunch won't open until May, the play will have a script-in-hand performance on Feb. 24 to help raise money for the theater. This gay variation on Of Mice and Men will be performed by Danny Scheie, Jon Gale, P.A. Cooley, Brian Yates Jon Gale, P.A. Cooley, Brian Yates Sharber, John Michael Beck, and Robert Mackey.

A reception with cast, play-wright, and director Adele Pran-dini will follow the performance. Call 861-5079 for info.

Musical donations

Many of the cast members om Kiss Me, Kate and The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas are giv-



Tom Eyen's Women Behind Bars, coming to Rhino, is a campy chestnut.

ing up their night off to sing for a good cause. No, Ann-Margret isn't one of them, but her Whorehouse co-star Gary Sandy will be there, along with *Kate* leads Rex Smith, Rachel York, and Chuck

Wagner.
These and other performers These and other performers from the two touring shows will turn Club Fugazi, home to Beach Blanket Babylon, into a Broadway cabaret on Feb. 25. Proceeds from the event will be divided between the Richmond/Ermet AIDS Foundation and Broadway Cares (Facts Fights AIDS)

Foundation and Broadway
Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.
Tickets range from \$20 to
\$100, and an extra \$25 gains you
admission to a post-show wine and dessert party with the cast. Call 421-4222 for tickets.

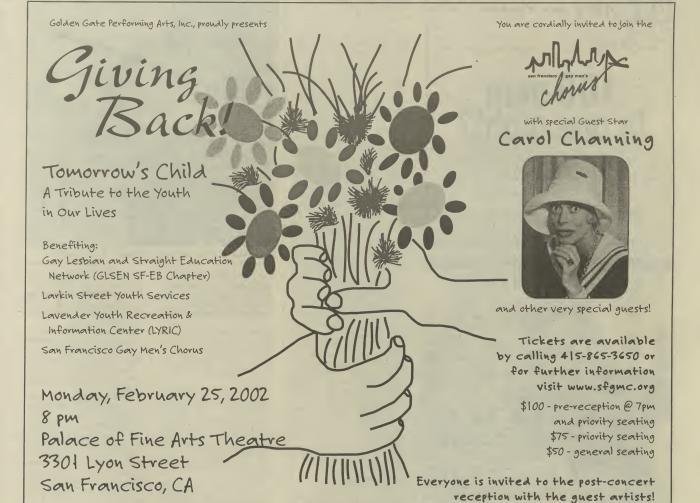
Short scenes

• Opera star Julia Migenes will head the cast of the world premiere of *The Difficulty of Crossing a Field*, a music-theater piece that ACT is staging at Theatre Artaud. ACT's Carey Perloff is directing the Mac Wellman-David Lang collaboration based on a short story by Ambrose Bierce. It's only running for four performance. running for four performance beginning March 22. Call 749 2228 for tickets.

2228 for tickets.

• She Loves Me defines the notion of a cult musical, and the faithful have a chance to see this little gem beginning Feb. 22 at Foothill Music Theatre in Los Altos Hills. Jay Manley directs a cast of professional, community,

page 35 ▶



Queer Jitterbugs

Arts cover

sometimes see a few women dancing together, but rarely men. Then a couple of years ago, I learned my college chum Kristin had started SwingOutl, which organized Swing events for queers. I went to one of its dances, and that's when I got really excited about Swing, because I could dance in a gay context. I always had to lead at the straight Swing dances, and I loved that now I could choose to be a leader or a follower — and, obviously, dance with other guys! With SwingOut's help, I started Queer Jitterbugs. I chose the name because jitterbug was originally a derogatory word for Swing that got legitimized, the way queer has for gays."

Queer Jitterbugs put on its first dance back in November. "I had no idea how many people would show up, so I booked one of the smallest rooms in the Women's Building. Then it was packed! I was totally surprised. From then on, Queer Jitterbugs has grown incredibly. Now, in addition to our big monthly dance, we're offering beginning and intermediate lindy hop classes on Monday evenings and Friday 'jive night,' which starts with a basic East Coast Swing class, then gives people a chance to practice and to swap moves. Both of these events are held at the Stud. We also have a Yahoo groups site where people can check out our calendar and share information about local Swing events, or just chat."

Puttin' on the Ritz

Starting this weekend, QJ will hold its monthly dance party at the new LGBT Community Center. "The space at the Center is bigger and better than any we've used before, and we're hoping to attract an even larger crowd. As a special attraction in February, the local entertainer Pippi Lovestocking will be putting on a tribute to Peggy Lee for us. We're proud that our dance will be the first major event held at the new Center."

From the look of the crowd the night I attended, Queer Jitterbugs succeeds in attracting a fairly

From the look of the crowd the night I attended, Queer Jitterbugs succeeds in attracting a fairly equal number of men and women. "You can say you're a gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender group," Gipson explained, "but it isn't actually one unless you find ways to include all those people and make them feel welcome, which we've tried to do. We also encourage queer youth to come to our monthly dances, which are open to all ages. There isn't a lot for queers under 21 to do in this

"Good laughs;

fascinating people.",



Jaime and Kristin share the joy of jitterbug in a same-sex sort of way.

city, and these dances offer a fun, healthy social environment for them."

Asked if there were any myths about Swing he would like to dispel, Gipson replied, "I guess that it's just a museum piece. Obviously, Swing does have its roots in the past, but some people are integrating all sorts of different dances into it. There's Tango Swing, or 'Swango.' People are

putting in hip hop moves, body rolls. Swing and other forms of couple-dancing are anything but fuddy-duddy. They involve actually connecting with your partner, and that's exciting. You have to touch the person you're dancing with and communicate through your body to make it work.

with and communicate through your body to make it work. "The other thing people seem to think is, 'Oh, couple-dancing, I can't do that unless I bring my own partner. But that isn't true. In our classes, we usually rotate partners a lot, so you end up dancing with different people anyway."

wantening with a mercial people anyway."

What are QJ's plans for the future? "For one thing, we'd like to start a monthly event featuring lessons in all the popular ball-room styles: fox trot, waltz, cha cha, and so on. We've already begun to teach some other types of dance like salsa at the Saturday parties, and this month, we'll have a tango lesson."

parties, and this month, we'll have a tango lesson."

Soon it was time for Gipson to get the ball rolling for the first event of the evening, a class in basic Swing. "All right," he cried, stepping out onto the dance floor, "followers line up on this side of the room, and leaders on that side!"

What followed was a scene reminiscent of the ballroom dance classes I took as a kid, except that instead of the boys charging across the room to ask the patiently waiting girls to dance, leaders and followers both took an active part in matching up. Two women, Kristin and Jaime, taught the class, and soon, I and a whole roomful of other people were moving pretty much together to their calls of, "Step, step, quick step!" We've done it, I thought, amazed — we're actually swing dancing!

ly swing dancing!

Queer Jitterbug's next dance
party is Saturday, February 23 at
the LGBT Community Center,
1800 Market St. 6:30-8:30 p.m.:
Basic Swing and Basic Tango
Lessons; 9 p.m.-Midnight, DJ
dancing. Admission is \$10. ▼

www.queerjitterbugs.com



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Metronome

■ Arts cover

heterosexuality of mainstream dance with several same-sex-specific introductory dance classes. A gay and lesbian drop-in salsa class, a gay and lesbian eight-week dance program, and a gay and lesbian four-week lindy hop series are all ongoing. In early March, the eight-week program (for this upcoming cycle, nine weeks) and the four-week series (for this upcoming cycle, five weeks) begin anew.

Amy Little teaches the drop-in

Amy Little teaches begin anew.
Amy Little teaches the drop-in
salsa and the eight-week dance
program. She has taught at the
Metronome since January 2001.
The dance program cycle she will
finish teaching at the end of February includes waltz, city swing,
tango and cha cha. The program
she begins in March will teach
four different forms: hustle, West
Coast swing, rhumba and fewter.

tour different forms: hustle, West
Coast swing, rhumba and foxtrot.
Little describes her classes as
"fun, with a lot of dancing and
not a ton of talking." Students rotate partners in her classes. Her
goal is "basically to give a really
good foundation" in her introductory classes. Little also teaches
an intermediate fast-swing course
on Saturdays, and offers private
lessons through the Metronome.
Little, who has danced all her
life, has studied a dizzying range

Little, who has danced all her life, has studied a dizzying range of dance forms, including ballet, modern, world dance, samba, Afro-Brazilian and Afro-Haitian. She discovered partner dancing at City College and began her instructor training at Metronome in early 2000. "My goal as a teacher is to get people to enjoy dancing, to enjoy their own bodies. The Metronome is a really warm studio, really welcoming of everyone who wants to study there."

Hop with Pop

Brandee Selck, the four-week gay and lesbian lindy hop series



Douglas Mitchell and Arthur Calandrelli show off a slick move.

instructor, has taught at the Metronome for two-and-a-half years. Selck also teaches lindy hop and West Coast swing levels at all levels at the Metronome. Selck underwent the Metronome teacher training program and is also certified professionally by the International Society of Teachers of Dance (ISTD). She notes that the lindy hop has gained in queer propularity.

popularity.
In addition to maintaining very high standards, Selck says, the Metronome "is the only ball-room in San Francisco that offers a gay and lesbian program. That's why I originally went there myself and took classes. The Metronome is not like other ballrooms that adhere to a traditional culture of dance"

Like Little, Selck enjoys her job more than most. "I really love how much joy it brings to people. Just to get to watch people connect to their partners and their bodies, to see that transformation, brings something important into people's lives. And you can have a great time doing it." Recognizing that the lesbian and gay course she offers is at the

Recognizing that the lesbian and gay course she offers is at the introductory level, she observes that "most of my queer students who go on to take advanced classes at the Metronome feel comfortable."

fortable."

April 26 through May 5 is National Dance Week, and Little's same-sex salsa class drop-in will be free that week, as will all of the Metronome's open house dance classes. The Metronome Ballroom is located at 1830 17th Street, at DeHaro, in San Francisco. For information on Metronome's schedule and events, call (415) 252-9000, or visit them online at www. metronomeballroom.com.



Short and so sweet

by Deborah Peifer

hen I was in graduate hen I was in graduate school, one of my professors was very strict about the maximum length allowed for assignments. "Explore the last scene in *The Seagull*," he'd say. "You may have two pages." And he meant two pages (that's about 500 words, if you're wondering, to discuss one of the richest and most complex scenes in theatre), as he assured us that if we turned in

assured us that if we turned in more, he'd just not read anything past page two.

He used a template, so you couldn't eke out a few more words by adjusting the margins. The result was fustrating, of course, but the constraint had the effect of making us extremely focused. I came away from that experience with an abiding love of Chekhov, and an enduring respect for those who can say more with less. Thus, my unabashed admiration for Karen X. Tulchinsky (Love Ruins Everything), who has become an editor with an extraordinary gift for collecting and editing very for collecting and editing very short pieces that carry the emo-



tional complexity of a good novel. Her latest, *Hot & Bothered 3: Short* Short Fiction on Lesbian Desire (Arsenal Pulp, \$15.95), is a glori-

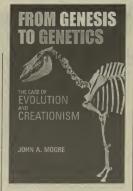
ous gathering of very short stories that carry a very passionate payoff. Jess Wells provides the sizzle and the steak with 155 perfectly chosen words in "Come to Me in Costume." Lesléa Newman celebrates the ingress of conditions of the steak of the ste brates the joys of serendipity, complete with surprise ending,

that might take place "One Fine Day." Lucy Jane Bledsoe offers a cure for the heartbreak of heterosexuality in "The Alternative." Tulchinsky selects several stories that involve severe disability or illness, and these stories, especially "Sunsets" (Denise Seibert) and "The Gift" (Rita Montana), are more moving than you can imagine. Tulchinsky's focus throughout is desire, not just erotica, and the stories she's chosen fulfill that intent. Hot & Bothered 3 is extraordinary, a pleasure to read and to recommend.

Breaking news

Important information for those of us who haven't taken a biology class since high school (and I won't go into just how long ago that was for many of us): biologists know lots **Book Report** more than they

used to. Wonder-ing what that lots might entail? John A. Moore has the answer in From Genesis to Genetics: The Case of Evolution and Creationism



(University of California, \$27.50) always fascinating and — more importantly for those of us who met the science re-

quirement for col-lege by taking rocks for jocks — always readable. Moore's project is to explain, for the science-im-

paired, just why creation science

isn't science, and that, what do you know, Darwin was right, and the proof is avail-able for all who wish to see it. Moore begins with a detailed explication of the two conflicting

creation stories that appear in *Genesis*, but his tone throughout is scholarly, not nasty. He doesn't atscholarly, not nasty. He doesn't attack the creationists who manage, by insisting upon the inerrancy of their Bible, to believe simultaneously two opposing versions of the beginning of things; he simply provides the information and offers a conclusion based on the data.

Genesis is not the only creation story around, of course, and Moore's review of various creation myths is both useful and entertaining. The heart of the book

ation myths is both useful and en-tertaining. The heart of the book is Moore's review of Darwin and evolution. Moore places Darwin's writings in the philosophical, re-ligious, and scientific contexts of the times in which he was writing, and offers contemporary responses to *The Origin of Species* as well as his own analysis of Darwin's theory. His chapters on 20th-century evidence in support of evo-

lution is particularly interesting.
Moore writes simply but not simplistically, and he explains terms and processes with the care of a good teacher. From Genesis to Genetics made me feel smarter, even as it made me much better informed. Bring the creationists. I'm ready for them. You will be as well.

Literary interludes

Jess Wells, Deborah Archer, Aja Couchois Duncan, Helen Voze-nilek and M. Christian read from nilek and M. Christian read from the Lambda Award-nominated anthology Love Shook My Heart, February 21, 7:30 p.m. at A Different Light. I've been lucky enough to hear Wells read, and I have to say that I think it counts as having sex, or something equally pleasurable.

Inst in case you were thinking

Just in case you were thinking that you'd done enough in your life, consider Dawn McGuire, who life, consider Dawn McGuire, who graduated from Princeton with an Academy of American Poets Prize, and published her first book in 1982. Then, heeding Auden's advice to young poets ("do something else"), she went on to obtain an MD from Columbia, and became a specialist in the neurologic complications from AIDS. She's writing again, and will discuss her new book, Hands On, at the Main Library on March 6 at 4:30 p.m., when ZYZZYVA Presents Amazing Women: Dawn McGuire.

Also at the Main, a four-week multimedia series on world religions, beginning with What Is Religion? on March 3. Later presentations cover World Mythologies (March 17), Shamanism and Vodu (March 24), and Eastern and Wester Polizione (March 31), All takes

(March 17), Shamanism and voau (March 24), and Eastern and West-ern Religions (March 31). All take place from 2-4 p.m. Given the way the current White House Resident and his evil henchmen bandy about religiosity, this series might be just what the reverend ordered. ▼

If you have gossip, inquiries or information of a literary nature, send them to DeborahPeifer@msn.com, or via snail mail to the BAR.

Tom Spanbauer unfettered Love and death 'In the City of Shy Hunters'

by Web Behrens

om Spanbauer doesn't write mere novels. He writes epic tales, grand in scope, magical in nature, and profound in theme. He breaks rules, playing with form and pushing boundaries of content. He creates amazing, fascinating, frustrating characters, offers them the wildest joys, and then puts them through hell.

then puts them through hell. Spanbauer takes no prisoners. It comes as no surprise, then, that the writing of his latest book, In the City of Shy Hunters, became a real-life epic of its own, filled with anger, heartache and illness. To write this tome of love and death and healing in a Manhattan beset by AIDS, Spanbauer drew on his own experiences and those on his own experiences and those of his friends. He started writing the book during the late '80s, when he still lived in New York. "I was so pissed off against [President Ronald] Reagan and Nancy [Reagan] and these fucking people who wouldn't pay any attention to this disease in that Administration that all Loud do we tion to this disease in that Administration, that all I could do was preach," he says, a genial matter-of-factness coloring his speech. "I was on a soapbox, screaming, so I had to put it away."

had to put it away."

As the protagonist of Shy Hunters would say, "You're going this way, and then shit happens and you're going that way."

So it was with Spanbauer, who stopped writing his modern-day story about "the fuck-you city" and began something else, a new book and a new life. What he created instead was The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon, which was published in 1991, one year after he moved to Portland, Oregon, to be with a new lover. He gon, to be with a new lover. He didn't seriously return to Shy Hunters until 1994, when he journewed overseas for a writing residency in Barcelona. Spanbauer's creative process would be interrupted again, however, with the onset of full-blown AIDS, which led to a lengthy hospitalization



Spanbauer pushes boundaries.

and subsequent depression. Once he completed the book, a final delay occurred thanks to a recalcitrant editor, who hated it and sat

on it for six months.

"Ten years in the writing,"
Spanbauer, 55, says of Shy Hunters, published last summer by Grove Press. "Of course, I stopped and had to almost die first."

Shy Hunters has been a long time coming, not only for the au-thor, but for the devoted fans he earned with *The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon*, a sprawling novel the likes of which you've never read before. Set at the turn of the century in a small mountain town in Idaho (Spanbauer's native state), it's the kind of Westnative state), it's the kind of West-ern in which the cowboys and In-dians engage in Tantric sex, the heroes are the whores of the local brothel, and the villains are venge-ful, God-fearing Mormons. It's narrated by a most engaging pro-tagonist, the young and hand-some Two-Spirit Named Shed (a biracial, bisexual healer). It's the biracial, bisexual healer). It's the kind of art that so captures the imaginations of those who read it, they can't stop talking about it.

The Man Who Fell in Love with the Moon was not a breakaway

bestseller, but rather a distance runner still found on bookstore shelves. "It's really odd," says Spanbauer, who recognizes that such success can lead to difficult expectations. "When Man first came out, it sold moderately. Eleven years later, it's still selling very moderately. I can't tell you how many hundreds of people have told me that they share their have told me that they share their copy with friends or give it as a gift. I don't know if *Shy Hunters* will have that appeal."

The answer is: probably not.

page 34 ▶



Pascal Rioult's musical vision

West Coast debut at Zellerbach Hall

by Stephanie von Buchau

f I had been judging the pairs skating event at the Olympics, there would have been no gold medal controversy, because I would have disqualified the Canadian pair for music abuse. All dance, on ice or on stage, gets its impetus from music, and it is impossible to create great choreography from bad music. Yet many choreographers, adnorters and critical control of the control of t choreographers, dancers and crit-ics have no knowledge, taste or even feel for music.

Last weekend, a transplanted Frenchman named Pascal Rioult presented the West Coast debut of his company, Pascal Rioult Dance Theatre, at Cal Performances. Theatre, at Cal Performances. Zellerbach Hall was only half full on Friday night. Nobody has ever heard of this guy or his troupe, even though they are celebrating their 10th anniversary. Thank Robert Cole and Cal Performances, not only for sponsoring them but for co-compusisioning

them, but for co-commissioning part of the Friday evening program, *The Rawel Project*.

Rioult, 47, is a science teacher who left Paris in 1980 to study dance with Merce Cunningham. Tall and well-built, he ended up dancing the male leads in many of Martha Graham's most famous ballets. He incorporates a little of Graham, Cunningham and other Graham, Cunningham and other modern dance icons such as Anna Sokolow and even a little Laura Dean into his own unique vision. And, on the basis of *The Ravel Project*, I'd say the vision was as musical as any I've seen in modern dance since Mark Morris and Paul Taylor. *The Ravel Project* consisted of four pieces, all set to sisted of four pieces, all set to

music by Maurice Ravel, each in a different manner. Two of them were interesting, and two of them were sensational. The tiny crowd in attendance made as much

in attendance made as much noise as a full house.
Rioult's signature piece was made in 1995, and it was the best of the evening's four works, because it was the most sheerly musical. "When" (or "Vienna") was the original title of Ravel's feverish "La Valse." Most people think of it as a great, sweeping orchestral piece depicting a vast Viennesse ballroom with women in crinoline gowns waltzing in the arms of gentlemen in Hussar's uniforms. I'm quite sure that uniforms. I'm quite sure that Ravel didn't see it that way, as there is a nasty, ominous, percussive throb under the string sec-

Rioult — and this is what I mean by "musical" — picks up the drumbeat and uses it to the drumbeat and uses it to ground his six barefoot dancers. They are dressed in working men's clothes, and they scuttle around the stage in a small, closely knit group. Things happen inside the huddle. A man strangles a woman. Bodies fall to the floor. Arms are raised in anguish. Faces contort in a rictus of horror. All the while the group is swirling to the insistence of the waltz. We are in Vienna, all right, but between the insistence of the waitz. We are in Vienna, all right, but between the two World Wars, and nothing about this waitz of death is going to come out well. Rioult is a lyrical characteristic Them is here. cal choreographer. There is hardly ever an ugly movement, yet vi-olence and evil are everywhere. I saw only one brief Nazi salute and a short goose-stepping episode. Otherwise, it is all continuous movement, and it is scary as hell.

Hip 'Bolero'

The other masterpiece, though less emotional and more formally attractive, was "Bolero," which ended the evening. The opening bars of this piece can be really tedious, as one wind instrument after another states the theme. It took me about three repetitions to catch on to Rioult's formal plan. As seven dancers (there are 10 in his troupe, counting Rioult and his wife, Joyce Herring) make mechanical movements that match the insistent snare drum, one dancer does a series of slow developées or arabesques, ending with a lascivious hip roll. Then the spotlight moves to another dancer

spotlight moves to another dancer and the pattern repeats, but each time with variations.

This ballet shows off Rioult's dancers, the tall, well-formed men and lovely, womanly girls. They are beautifully trained, as well they should be, since Linda Hodes, a longtime Graham practitioner, is the rehearsal director. titioner, is the rehearsal director. The slow balances and expansive arm gestures in all the dances were impressive; in "Bolero," they were jaw-dropping. I've never seen a modern dance company not even Morris' — with such unisons and such sure-footed bal-

The other two pieces were less entertaining. *Home Front* is a Grahamesque piece with stalwart men and vulnerable woman, with the dramatic Penelope Gonzalez in red, and everybody else in pas-tel, set to "Le Tombeau de Couperin." Rioult notes that the "Tombeau" was a memorial to Ravel's fallen comrades in WWI. It is also a faux baroque piece that



Pascal Rigult Dance Theatre wowed the small audience in Berkeley.

sounds really ghastly on the out-dated sound-system in Zellerbach Hall. I'm told help is on the way,

Hall. I'm told help is on the way, but it can't be too soon.

The other premiere piece was more therapy than art. Prelude to Night takes its theme from Herring's breast cancer battle, which she appears to have won. The first movement to Prelude to Night is the most intriguing, as Herring takes off her red dress and dances in a hospital gown with four male, dehumanizing attendants. The second movement finds her struggling with a lover-death figure (Rioult) to "Alborada del Gra-

cioso." The Spanish theme is kind of silly.

In the third movement, "Pa-

vane for a Dead Princess," Herring in red triumphs over more flesh-colored obstacles as a bright light shines in our eyes, symboliz-ing her journey "from darkness to light." Way too symbolic. Way too intellectual. And just too loaded thematically to make the best use of the music. A noble effort, but we know from "Wien" and "Bolero" that when he's "on," Rioult doesn't need intellectual trappings to make a stunning dance.

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Recorded riches

MTT on three new CDs

by Philip Campbell

ichael Tilson Thomas is on fire. The classical recording industry is flopping about like a goldfish waiting for a fresh bowl, but he manages three compact disc releases in one month. On top of that, the marketing strategy for one project in-cludes sales and promotion from the San Francisco Symphony's own website.

After the Mahler and Schoenberg program heard at Davies Hall two weeks ago, MTT still summoned enough energy to sign copies of two of the new releases in the lobby. Then it was off to Carnegie Hall for the orchestra's East Coast tour.

Does his passionate drive trans-late into artistic successes? Sample any of the new discs (one is a digi-tal re-issue of hit recordings from the early '70s), and I think you will join the ranks of music lovers in awe of his talent and vigor.

Charles Ives: An American Jour-ney — Thomas Hampson, bari-tone, San Francisco Symphony and Chorus, Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor and piano

(RCA Victor Red Seal)
MTT likes to make live record-MTT likes to make live recordings. It suits his character to have the finished document appear spontaneous. With a recording engineer as good as Markus Heiland in charge of the mix, An American Journey turns out to be every bit as lively as the wonderful concerts that we witnessed at Davies.

Research and theatrical savvy.

Research and theatrical savvy helped Tilson Thomas create a de-lightful cavalcade and introduction



MTT: music with passionate drive

to America's greatest composer. All of the important themes are there: love of place, respect for valor, transcendental spirituality, and a rowdy, good-natured sense of humor. It is 65 minutes of delight, nostalgia and mysterious beauty. Thomas Hampson sounds perfect in the songs, accompanied by MTT at the piano and on the podium. The Chorus is mightily impressive, and there is a sheen on the strings that will give goosebumps.

bumps.

Two numbers were orchestrated for the occasion by no lesser figures than John Adams and David Del Tredici. The glorious David Del Iredici. The glorious Fugue from the Fourth Symphony fits well with "Psalm 100" and the riotously witty "General William Booth Enters Into Heaven." The disc opens with the evoca-tive "From the Steeples and the Mountains" and closes with the ethereal "The Unanswered Ques-

page 39 ▶



Great sopranos sing anew

by Jason Serinus

hy focus on new CD remasterings of dead and retired sopranos when there are so many fine sopranos now before us? Simply put, because virtually none of today's sopranos possess the individual timber interpretain incide und here interpretain incide und here bre, interpretive insight, and sheer charisma of older sopranos, whose voices shine on disc as

whose voices shine on disc as never before.

Take Victoria de los Angeles, for example. On the night of April 21, 1996, when the Catalan-born 73-year old replaced an ailing Montserrat Caballè to present a full-length recital in Davies Symphony Hall, few expected to hear more than a shadow of her former voice. Imagine our amazement, then, to discover the voice and artistry not only intact, but capable of the same warmth, charm and grace that had not been heard since her prime years! since her prime years!

Nowhere can the soprano's

since her prime years!

Nowhere can the soprano's drive to communicate her sheer love of singing be better heard than on The Fabulous Victoria de los Angeles: A Lifetime Achievement (Testament). A superb remastering of a 1960 Gerald Moore-accompanied recital (with the addition of selections by Villa-Lobos, Canteloube and Bizet), the disc offers a "typical" de los Angeles evening of Schubert, Brahms, Fauré, Granados, Nin, Turina and others. Only in recordings made in the '30s by Elisabeth Schumann and Lotte Lehmann will you find such carefully nuanced, artifice-free interpretations of Schubert's "Wohin?" and Brahms' "Vergebliches Ständchen." For art song aficionados, this disc is a treasure.

The great Beverly Sills possessed a voice whose soft, floating pianissimi could tear your heart out. Although saddled with the nickname Bubbles ever since her childhood appearance in a Brillo radio commercial, Sills touched

childhood appearance in a Brillo radio commercial, Sills touched deepest, not in comedy, but in the tragic roles of Bellini, Donizetti, Moore and others



Thanks to the superb remas-tering on *The Singers: Beverly Sills* (Decca), Sills lovers can finally hear her performance of Richard Strauss' "Breit' über mein Haupt," Strauss. "Breit' über mein Haupt," recorded in her prime, in sound that easily surpasses the original LP issue. This is a truly magical, transcendent performance, a Strauss interpretation that rings as true as those by Elisabeth Schumann, who toured the US accompanied by Strauss. As in her 1974 recording of Mozart's "Vorrei spiegarvi, oh Dio!," Sills sings quite slowly, using her unique, disembodied tones to touch listeners in new ways. This compilation, also featuring three great 1969 French operatic performances and a few showpieces that betray Sills' limitations, is a must-have. tations, is a must-have

Saint Joan

Talk of Sills leads to her coloratura "rival," Joan Sutherland. While Sills is certainly the deeper artist of the two (Sills in good voice would invariably hypnotize

where Sutherland would either stun or somnambulate), Sills could deliver neither the knock-out impact of Sutherland's "Santo out impact of sutnerlands "santo di patria, Allor che I forti cor-rono" from Verdi's Attila, nor the radiant highs of her Australian counterpart's "Son vergin vez-zosa" from Bellini's I puritani. These performances and more distinguish the two-disc La Stupenda: The Supreme Joan Sutherland (Decca), filled primarily with stupendous coloratura recordings from Joanie's best

years.
Having attended Sutherland's breathtaking Met debut in *Lucia*, as well as Sills' unforgettable 1970 NYCO Roberto Devereux, I can at-NYCO Roberto Devereux, I can attest that these remasterings go a long way toward capturing the wonder of their voices in their prime. Sutherland can also be heard on The Singers: Joan Sutherland (Decca). Here, alas, poor diction, droopy phrasing (the start of "Vorrei spiegarvi, oh Dio!" seems especially unfortunate when compared to the Sills version) and in:

world spregarty, on Diot seems especially unfortunate when compared to the Sills version), and inappropriate repertoire (including the gay Reynaldo Hahn's "Si mes vers avaient des ailes" and Noël Coward's "I'll Follow My Secret Heart") limit enjoyment. Stick with the two-discer.

The woman who could sing Coward, Hahn, and French song to perfection was Dame Maggie Teyte. Dubbed "l'Exquise" by her teacher Jean de Reszke (Caruso's predecessor at the Met), Teyte debuted at age 18 in a series of concerts conducted by her life-long friend, Reynaldo Hahn (once lovers with Marcel Proust). One of two Englishwomen coached by of two Englishwomen coached by Debussy for the role of Melisande, Teyte's famed downward portamentos, lyric purity on high, and voice filled with tenderness and sadness were perfect for the "impressionist" repertoire. So ideal were Teyte's voice and sensibility that once, when De-bussy witnessed a rehearsal in which a conductor was attempting to alter her interpretation, he boomed out, "Laissez-faire Mag-

gie Teyte!"
Teyte's career was resurrected in 1936, at age 48, by a set of Debussy recordings accompanied by the great Alfred Cortot. While Teyte's personality at the time had become increasingly armored (perhaps in part to cover up her long-time relationship with the woman who lived in the cottage behind the house in which she and her husband resided), her singing had become more and and her husband resided), her singing had become more and more transparent, as though she were revealing secrets to her audience that she dared not share any other way. Her famed 1941 recording of Hahn's L'heure exquise, available on a two-disc EMI set and a favorite of gay liberation founder Harry Hay exemplifies founder Harry Hay, exemplifies this gift of intimate communica-



The Singers: Maggie Teyte (Decca) brings to CD long unavailable recordings from 1932 and 1937. Teyte's charm in "Tu n'es pas beau/je t'adore" from Offenbach's La Perichole proves in-

comparable, her drop into chest voice on the word "brigand" reve-latory. The gay Coward's "Secret Heart" and a number of senti-Haert" and a number of senti-mental English songs are equally memorable. Though there are other singers one would choose for Schumann and Brahms, this disc is like a pearl, waiting to be discovered and treasured.



Leider lieder

Equal revelations come with e Singers: Frida Leider (Decca). The Singers: Frida Leider (Decca). Her successor Flagstad may have had the bigger, more stunning instrument, but Leider (born in 1888, the same year as Teyte, Schumann, and Lehmann) offered thrilling sensual beauty and a deeper range of expression. Marvelous in Mozart (listen to the "Dove Sono" on this disc), her 1925 "Du bist der Lenz" Die Walküre scene with Melchior (frustratingly shorn of the first-act climax), "Liebestod," and "Zu neuen Taten" must be heard. Don't be put off by the acoustic recordings; the purity of Leider's voice survives.

New to opera? For core

voice survives.

New to opera? For core lyric/dramatic Italian operatic repertoire, start with Tebaldi and Callas. Grab Tebaldi: My First Record (Fono), filled with 1949 and '50 recordings of Verdi, Puccini, Boito, et al. The booklet is in Italian, the sometimes ridiculously over-reverbed selections ripped off from 78s, but the singing, from off from 78s, but the singing, from the very first notes, is absolutely right. Tebaldi endorsed this issue, and its indispensability is unques-



tionable. Beauty of tone, absolute sincerity, and convincingly idiomatic phrasing, both here and on the two-disc *The Great Renata Tebaldi* (Decca), leave opera queens no choice but to shed pretense and acknowledge true royalty.



Tebaldi has the feminine warmth of heart; Callas cuts to the center of the heart, when she is not slashing it to bits. While the single-disc *The Very Best of Maria* Callas (EMI) focuses far more on Callas' romantic repertoire than bel canto, her "Habanera" from Bizet's Carmen and unforgettable "J'ai perdu mon Eurydice" from Gluck's Orphée stun anew with their individuality. Just when you their individuality. Just when you think you know what Callas is all about, another facet of her great-ness is revealed. If you've got an appetite for trash, the photo of a gorgeous, fur-enshrouded Maria hugged by Onassis on front and Meneghini on rear is an opera in itself. ▼





Big and blasphemous

by John F. Karr

hings were sailing along just fine in Blue Blake's Clash of the Titans until the penulti-mate scene, in which the movie, for my money, completely de

Clash of the Titans tells the lurid story of three bodybuilding brothers, Tony, Vinnie and Angelo, who have only one downfall: boys. This per-fectly delightful premise

to see at least one,

times two, gigantic musclemen paired with a lush exemplar of "boy" in each scene. That would be enough to inveigle fans of mega-muscle, but the movie's got a lot to add. In the first scene,

saucy pup Hans Ebson is delighted to watch Tony flex the big bosoms of his pees, at which the happy Hans is soon suckling. I like the mood; it's upbeat, not ponderous like most bodybuilding episodes. What is ponderous is Tony's rump: two paragons of muscleglobe. Envision your typical bubble butt, and then blow it up to Goodyear blimp

to Goodyear blimp proportions.
Cute bottom is re

placed by princely bottom in the next Karrnal Knowledge

suavely handsome Dave Nelson proving mannishly receptive to brother Vinnie — he of the satin skin and plump, veiny cock, which is a swell complement to the flawless prettiness of Nelson's

รูบโดง อกะ รูกเออลกบ

sleek shaft. The third scene serves up Thor in a solo that lets a gor-geous giant serve up all his attrib-utes: a broad plateau of chest, utes: a broad plateau of chest, with breasts that are huge saucers of armor plate; blonde hair atop a severe overhang of brow that adds a condor's majesty to glacial blue eyes; a gaze that nails you before looking down at a pink and pretty dick that's a plump handful, and which gives forth a pulsing rope of cum that stretches unbroken down to the payement. Thor's ken down to the pavement. Thor's a Nordic god, no doubt about it — although I suspect a true Nordic god's foreskin would be

Police brutality

Next, two of the brothers pick up a shiny street kid. They ply him with drugs, plug him heartily from both ends, and, when he ODs, dump the body. Tom Katt (at his bulkiest and thankfully un-shayen) has surrentificulty video-(at his bulkiest and thankfully unshaven) has surreptitiously videotaped the murder, and will provide the tape to a cop, provided the cop has sex with him. This being gay porn, the cop protests that he's straight, and then plunges his tongue down the extortionist's throat. Also, this being gay porn, the cop has to offer verbal abuse along with the expected sodomy. Here's what the cop has to say as Tom sucks his dick: to say as Tom sucks his dick: "You're pretty good for a little fag, you little fag bitch." Now, I'm not allowed to even write the B word, so I have no idea how it got into the last sentence. As for little fags

(L to r:) Vincenzo Titan, Giovanni Corleone, Rico Dulce, three Titans

being bitches, well, this is standard Blue Blake territory, and it makes my dick wilt. Tony Valentino, with the attenuated features and cool hauteur of a runway model, plays the cop in *Titans*, and throws enough disarming attitude for the cop fantasy to be effective; he was a real turn-on until he opened his mouth. It is, after all, possible to film an abusive cop fantasy without this sad sort of homophobia. Watch Chris Ward's "Cop and Robber" segment of Raging Stal-lion's Sexpack Two.

The Titans DVD also has some

choice deleted material in its "Bloopers" chapter. Here, Tony

Valentino proves he really ought to be doing improv comedy. As he fucks Katt, he rambles on, "Hey, you little schoolgirl in your tight little skirt," at which point Katt gives him an "Oh, Mary" roll of the eyes and begs, "Let's lose the little girl in the skirt." At least Blake knew enough to cut this bit. And finally, one last blooper provides an example of the inherent difficulties of directing porn. Blue Blake shows a ple of the innerent dilliculus of di-recting porn. Blue Blake shows a model where to lie so that another two "can cum all over you." Come to pass, however, the two eke out a mere droplet or two. Still, that letdown made the final cut. What's a director to do? ▼



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Tom Spanbauer ◄ page 31

Which isn't to say *Shy Hunters* isn't a compelling book, because it is, and the reviews have been good. But *Shy Hunters* deals not with a conflict of another time but with one all too fresh in many people's hearts and minds. The author himself acknowledges that his new

himself acknowledges that his new book is much darker: "I really worked hard to find the light in it, and it was really hard to do."

A lot of the darkness comes from the plague that dominates its pages, of course. But the author feels that labeling his book an "AIDS novel," as some critics have done, is shortsighted. "I think it's as much about AIDS as Romeo and Juliet is about teen suicide," Spanbauer muses. "It's certainly set in bauer muses. "It's certainly set in the time of AIDS, and I did want to write about how AIDS devastated that city in particular, and how it reached all strata of society. But

really, I see it as a love story."

In that respect, and in several others, it's very much like its predecessor. Both books possess a multiracial cast of thrillingly peculiar characters. Beyond black and white, Spanbauer weaves Native American characters into his tales, which are infused with lessons he's learned about spiritu-ality and culture from Clyde Hall,

a Shoshone-Bannock healer

a snosnone-Bannock healer.

"I grew up [in Pocatello, Idaho]
right next to an Indian reservation," he explains. "Oddly enough
— or it's really predictable, I guess
— I never associated with any Native people at all. I knew the reservation was there, and I rode the vation was there, and I rode the bus with them, and that's all. Then I got back from Kenya [on a Peace Corps assignment], and it was so astounding to me that there were so many Native people in Pocatel-lo and I had never seen them be-fore. About that time, I befriended

my brother Clyde.

"We became brothers in 1968, when you could still do that kind of thing. We cut each other's wrists and became blood brothers. I've been very close with him for the past 33 years. It's my rela-tionship with him that's kept me

close to issues for Native people."

In addition to writing about race, Spanbauer continues to re turn to the theme of sexuality. He identifies himself as gay, although he clarifies, when asked, "I was married for seven years, and I've been in love with a number of women in my time, so I guess you could call me bisexual." Much like the restrictive mentality that confines Shy Hunters to the "AIDS novel" genre, the notion that Spanbauer writes "gay fiction" is one that rankles him.

"I write about people," he says.

"I don't write about Indians; I don't write about blacks; I don't write about queers; I write about people. And I particularly like to write about people who are dealing with issues of race and gender. I just want to come at it from some place of humanity. Let's say we both do the same sexual act — therefore, you and I have a lot in common? We might have nothing in common, you know. Believe me, I've met some real bitches who were gay, really mean people. And straight people, too. And mean black people

and some pretty horrendous Indi-ans. So it's just humanity."
Given his personal history — reflected in his habit of creating omnisexual protagonists — Span-bauer naturally has an intriguing perspective on sexuality. "I once talked to a Navajo man who was writing a book [about Navajo his-tory and culture]. He hadn't fin-ished his research yet, and he had found 33 different genders. Here we think it's either male or female, but in his society, there were al-

"I think it's time to talk about that. It's not a gay thing or a straight thing, but a human thing. We're very complex beings. If you put a straightjacket on us, we'll act like we've been told. But given a freer society, I think we could find out a lot more than we know about our sexuality." ▼

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Ann-Margret

■ page **27**

in Alex Haley's Queen (1993), superb worrying about Nobody's Children (1994), Belle Watling in Scarlett (1994) (one of the few bright spots in that awful miniseries), then reunited with Lemmon and Matthau (joined by Sophia Loren) for Grumpier Old Men (1995) which die pot equal Men (1995), which did not equal its predecessor's success.

On the small screen, she was

Seduced by Madness, visited the Blue Rodeo (both 1996), was a glowing Life of the Party (1998) as Pamela Harriman, dealt with Happy Face Murders (1999), then played a mother in Perfect Murder, Perfect Town (2000). Her last released movie was 1999's Any Given Sunday.

In the 1980s, her stage shows

In the 1980s, her stage shows earned her Las Vegas' Entertainer of the Year award, and she played to sold-out houses around the country. She also has an impres-sive discography. Her personal life

has been discreet. Her long-time has been discreet. Her long-time marriage to former actor Roger Smith has been happy. He had managed her career but was struck with myesthenia gravis. She has faced this tragedy with the same discipline and lack of self-pity that has characterized her professional life. By now, she is an ageless and admired institution.

An Evening with Ann-Margret at the Castro, Feb. 22, 8:30 p.m. Call (415) 863-0611.

Baby wants a new swing set

Candid camera on 'Sex with Strangers'

by David Lamble

hen the Brothers Gantz (Joe and Harry) decided to get in on the only respectable brand of sibling incest, fillmaking — joining the Brothers Coen, Farrelly, Karamazov, Marx, Maysles and Polish — they had to find a work or make their had to find a way to make their films stand out from the herd, so they decided to reinvent *Candid*

Camera with a twist.

"We originally did a show here in San Francisco called A Life at Random. We spun a roulette wheel with the 50 states on it to get a state. We threw a dart at the get a state. We threw a dart at the map of that state to get a city. We opened the phone book, with our eyes closed, put our finger down and invited that person to come on and talk about their life." When interviewed together, Joe and Harry Gantz finish each other's sentences.
"Twelve people showed up. We

"Twelve people showed up. We talked with them about the events that had shaped their lives. The idea is that everybody has been through some amazing things if you can get them to talk about the events that made them who they are. We never got that on the air. but that's what led us to Taxi Cab Confessions, which is essentially A Life at Random in the back of a

Oddly enough, it was a particularly fluid episode of *Taxi Cab Confessions*, the popular series in which cab passengers are filmed interacting with their drivers and interacting with their drivers and each other, now in its sixth season on HBO, that led to the Gantzes' feature-length documentary about the three million or so North American "swingers" who open up their relationships to the possibility of Sex with Strangers. "We had a rider in Las Vegas Taxi Cab Confessions we called 'The Lactating Woman,' because during the ride she pulls out her breasts and explains that when she got implants she started consequence." she got implants she started con-tinually lactating. She squirts some milk which hits the seat in front. She and her partner went on to explain their experience swinging, and we hadn't heard that much about swinging at that point, and were pretty much blown away by that ride."

Cliff notes

The brothers lined up 12 swinging couples, only to discover that 11 of the 12 didn't play well on screen. "Documentary well on screen. "Documentary filmmaking is a little like jumping off a cliff and hoping you'll figure it out before you hit the bottom."

In the end, one of the swinging couples discovered by the Gantz brothers turned out to be jump-

ing off their own cliff without a parachute in sight. Calvin and

Julie (two rather pushy tops, especially when she's wearing her strap-on-dildo) attempt to have a strap-on-dildo) attempt to have a three-way relationship with Sarah, who turns out to be a passive/aggressive pushy bottom. At first, Calvin and Sarah appear headed for marital bliss with swinging as a tasty pit-stop, or at least boredom-averting foreplay. But then jealousy appears, and all bets are off.
"The tap line for the film is "if-

bets are off.

"The tag line for the film is, 'If you thought monogamy was hard...' Because when you bring someone into your relationship, and they come into your bedroom, and you have sex openly in front of your partner, that is not an easy thing to deal with, and we found that many people in our

an easy thing to deal with, and we found that many people in our film had trouble dealing with it."

Watching Sex with Strangers, I felt myself having a kind of out-of-body experience, flashing back to the youthful folly of being a gay swinger in the Dallas of the late '70s. As with the British Queer as Folk, Sex with Strangers mirrors a lot of the bed-swapping/open relationships running riot amongst the band of "gay adolescents" that my lover and I hung with. I felt many of the vulnerabilities that Sarah feels in the film. Seeing Sarah bouncing in and out of bed Sarah bouncing in and out of bed with Calvin and the more resilient Julie, watching her scheme, pout, and burst into tears whenever she feels neglected, I flash back on a long-forgotten insight — that

long-forgotten insight — that swinging or cruising is much more fun and possible when pursued from some safe harbor, the harbor of a relationship or some structure that is seen as immutable. Throughout the film, Sarah wants Calvin — only she doesn't want him the way she's going to get him, on his terms.

Calvin is at the core of Sex with Strangers. Not only is he the boyishly cute if elusive prize that many swing for (a straight man who uses "bitch" the way a gay man would, who likes to fix his girlfriend's hair, who is in fact the perfect adolescent), but he's like that greatest of fictional characters — a man who is honest in his ters — a man who is honest in his pursuit of pleasure, all the while lying through his teeth about his true motives and ambitions. Calvin is nothing if not dramatic subtext, the kind of character that most conventionally "sincere" documentaries lack, rendering them beging or one-dimensional. them boring or one-dimensional

Slippery slope

The Gantz brothers note that Calvin, Sarah and Julie were the least typical and therefore most interesting example of what can befall one on the slippery slope of swingdom. "Calvin and Sarah were a couple, and they were thinking about getting married. Sarah agreed to swing with him.

She says in the film that she had swung before and that she'd been bisexual before and knew what bisexual before and knew what she was doing, but you don't know to what extent she was doing it for Calvin because he had said, 'I'm going to be in a swing-ing relationship.' Calvin and Sarah met Julie and wanted to bring her into the relationship, and Julie said, 'I'm not bisexual, and I do not swing.' First Julie started not swing.' First Julie started falling for Calvin, and then she said, 'Well, maybe I could swing,' and later she said, 'Well maybe I am bisexual, and then it got com-

When I described Calvin, Sarah and Julie's relationship as giving off the thrills we associate with rubber-necking at a car wreck, the Gantz brothers were quick to defend not only the deightful madness of their method of filmmaking, but the necessity of looking squarely at the usually hidden underside of relationships. "We don't look at it as a car wreck, we look at it as these couples riving up the right of preprint ples giving us the gift of opening up their personal lives and seeing the mistakes that they're making, that everybody makes when they're figuring out how they want to live out their sexual idenwant to five out near sexual itentity. The point is that anybody can relate to this, whether you're straight or gay, whether you're monogamous or not. The issues are universal. It's just that because they've made this lifestyle choice, they is you so made they are force. they issues come to the surface a



Calvin, Sarah and Julie, a swinging threesome in Sex with Strangers

lot more, and the conflicts are something that people are forced to deal with, where maybe people who live a more structured sexual life are never forced to deal with those issues."

those issues.

Fleshing out Sex with

Strangers' attractive cast are James
and Theresa, an older couple
whose strong personal feelings for
each other and ability to use their each other and ability to use their mobile home to hunt for other couples as a couple make them the film's best living ad for swing-ing. In the film's most tender mo-ment, James visits Theresa as she's waking up from breast enlarge-ment surgery, an option she chose, after much debate with James, to keen herself young, in James, to keep herself young, in the game, and to give them as a

couple some sexy "bait" with which to lure other, younger cou-

The Brothers Gantz note that all three couples in the film suffered from job discrimination as a result of their lifestyle and from their appearing in the film. "Swingers feel in some ways legally that they're where the gay community was 25 years ago." The Gantzes note the irony that swinging as a lifestyle is both more widely practiced and more "underground" because of the prevailing attitude that swingers will be persecuted and shunned if will be persecuted and shunned if their lives become too public. ▼

Sex with Strangers opens Fri.



HEADLINER & EVENT INFO 415.781.9468

Backstage

◄ page **29**

and student actors. Call (650) 948-4444 for tickets.

• The Transparent Theatre in Berkeley continues its debut season with the world premiere of a comic-book tragedy about a meeting between Aquaman's daughter and the psychologically challenged Beach Boy Brian Wilson. Written and directed by Transparent founder Tom Clyde, The Golden State opens Feb. 23. Call (510) 883-0305.

• The Laramie Project contributed 10 of the 19 nominations that Berkeley Rep recently received from the Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle. But the most nominations, with 21, go to TheatreWorks, primarily for its productions of Pacific Overtures and Summer of '42. The open-to-the-public awards ceremony takes place April 8 at the Palace of Fine Arts. Tickets are available beginning March 3 by calling (925) 866-9599. ▼ · The Laramie Project con-

Richard Dodds can be reached

Calendare

Queer h@os

unk is back. The attitude is spreading all around the globe, no doubt driven by the economic downturn ("Great Depression II" anyone?) and the spectacular confirmation of the fact that the American way of life is up for sale, with steep discounts on bank out concerties and way of life is up for sale, with steep discounts on bankrupt corporations and governments. If Reagan was responsible for the first punk backlash in the '80s, this time around it's George WWIII and his knight in shining armor, Rudolph Giuliani, who are pushing punk buttons right and left. On the left-punk side of the equation, you've got queer youth of color who argue for basic liberties — like the right to be left alone to enjoy their play and live spaces in the dilapidated, decaying, sometimes dangerous but

right to be left alone to enjoy their play and live spaces in the dilapidated, decaying, sometimes dangerous but homey and much beloved Christopher St. Pier in New York City, which Giuliani as mayor finally had fenced off for "redevelopment" in 2000, kicking out the kids and homeless persons.

In response, a bunch of the youth of color, low income, homeless and LGBTQ youth who lost their space — which had long been a bastion of gay cruising and sex in the formative years of gay liberation — videotaped their story. On Friday night, February 22, at Artists' Television Access in the Mission (992 Valencia St., at 21st St.), the results of that video-documentary will be offered in a program called "Urban Ch@os, Queer Spaces & Other Places," a multimedia presentation produced by Paper Tiger TV, New Neutral Zone, and FIERCE.

The core of the program will be the screening of Fenced Out, the video that resulted from the activists' documentary efforts. Its tone of defiance — surprisingly upbeat, considering the circumstances — perfectly suits the

surprisingly upbeat, considering the circumstances — perfectly suits the anarchist sentiments of the ousted pier anarchist sentiments of the ousted pier dwellers. The Pier provided their social milieu, their safe space, their sacred ground, their only escape from the oppressively orchestrated, straightaced, up-tight world represented by Giuliani and his enforcers.

The documentary is blatantly onesided, of course, but a true afficionado of punk wouldn't have it any other way.

Also at the Friday night presentation, Paper Tiger TV will air its video Turning Tragedy into War, a documentary that "counteracts the corpo-

mentary that "counteracts the corporate media's war driven and racist spin on the events of September 11."

Another indie media collective, Seattle's Queer Film Club, will pre-

seattie's Queer Film Club, will present recent DIY works that challenge stereotypical queer images. On the line-up are Super-8 and video shorts including Karen bout Karen (Aaron Park), Scenic Seattle (Trever Smith), and Holy Matrimony?! (Trever Smith & Kristi Shaefer).

Just to make sure the locals show up, **DJ Spike** of **Club KY** will be on hand to spin when doors open at 7:30pm. ▼

Tickets for "Urban Ch@os, Queer Spaces & Other Places" at ATA Gallery (992 Valencia St.) are \$5-\$10 sliding. Showtime is 8 p.m. Info: 824-3890.



Violet Indiana (ex-Cocteau Twin Robin Guthrie and ex-Mono Siobhan De Mare) play The Great American Music Hall. See Wednesday

Most Holy Redeemer

CD-release concer Singer/songwriter Mark Wei-gle unveils his new recording, Out of the Loop, his third album. Weigle has established a solid reputation as a folk singer who is unafraid to be singer who is unafraid to be out. He has performed center stage at countless GLBT festivals and events. He'll be joined tonight by special guests helping to create a lively, down-home musical atmosphere. Free, 7-10pm reception; live set at 8pm. 100 Diamond St. (at 18th St.). Info: www.markweigle.com

UC Berkeley Campus
UC Berkeley presents The
University of California Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex Association's
13th Annual Conference,
"Queer All Directions." For
three days (Feb. 22-24), hundreds of students, faculty, and
staff from throughout California will attend workshops, listen to speakers and lecturettes, and enjoy performances, art exhibits, cutting
edge research, and interactive
sessions. In the spotlight:
Susan Stryker, executive director of the LGBT Historical
Society; an Ammesty International/Outfront Panel;
Patrick Califo, author can **UC** Berkeley Campus Society; an Amnesty Interna-tional/Outfront Panel; Patrick Califia, author, ac-tivist, therapist; Jameson Green, founder of FTM Int'l. \$25 students of any school w/ID; \$45 faculty/staff of any school w/ID; \$50 regular peo-ple. Info/registration: (\$10) 643-5728; queer.berkeley.edu/conference

Castro Theatre

Gala event: Marc Huestis, association with Lawrence Helman, presents "An Evening With Ann Margret," Sweden's most beautiful and talented export to Hollywood. She'll be present for a staged Valentine in her honor, a film homage, and an on-stage conversation with People Are Talking's Ann Frasier. Her 1964 hit Viva Las Vegas (with Elivis) will be screened. This evening kicks off a three day film festival, "Viva Ann-Margrett" featuring five of Margret's classic films. \$25-35 (partial proceeds benefit Project Open Hand). 8:30pm. 429 Castro St. Tix at A Different Light Bookstore, 489 Castro St.

848 Community Space

Castro St.

848 Community Space
"848's 10th Anniversary Celebration" of free-spirited performance, ritual, healing,
dance, music, comedy and
creativity of all kinds. Three
nights of performance, each
differently themed. Tonight is
"Anti-War" night, with Doug
Von Koss (elder statesman of
soul enrichment and poetic
enchantment). Samsara (female acapella vocal trio doing male acapella vocal trio doing American roots, folk and soul), Takishi Tanemori, Jess Curtis, Med-O Sax Quartet, Jade Blue Eclipse (hard-core circus/fetish artist), and victo ria mcnichol kelly (dancer writer, painter, activist). \$10-\$20 (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 848 Divisadero St. (at McAllis-ter). Tix/info: 922-2385.

23t

Gift Center Pavilion

"A Winter's Dream!" — Imperial Coronation 2002. The Imperial Court of San Francisco and Emperor Toma nd Empress Chablis welcome and invite all to share in their dream as they celebrate the culmination of this year's Im-perial reign and crown the next Empress and Emperor. Tables of 10: \$650, \$500, & \$400 (\$65-\$30 per person). Tables of 6: \$30 per person.

Standing room only: \$25 per person. Doors open 5pm; ball starts 6pm promptly. 888 Brannan St. Tix: Marlena's, 864-6672.

LGBT Community Center

Queer Jitterbugs present "Swing Dance with Tango Lessons Too," featuring a special tribute to Peggy Lee special tribute to Peggy Lee
by Pippi Lovestocking, Experience the fun in The Center's
spiffy 2nd floor dance space.
No parther or experience
needed. All ages. \$10. 6:308:30 basic swing and tango
lessons; 9pm-midnight DJ'd
dancing. Info: www.queerjitterbugs.com

Jon Sims

Center for the Arts Sugar mama Gwen Avery and her Blues Band perform songs from their Sugar Mama album in a salon-style setting. \$5-\$10 sliding (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 1519 Mission St. Tix/info: 554-0402; www.jonsimsctr.org

Montclair Women's Cultural Arts Club, Oakland

Oakland
Vocalist/Jazz stylist Jenna
Mammina in concert, interpreting standards from
Ellington to Sammy Cahn and
her pal Abbey Lincoln, and
moving into the rock/pop
world of Led Zeppelin and
Elvis Costello. Her new album
is Meant To Be. She'll be accompanied by guitarist Andre
Bush. \$20 adv.; \$23 door.
7:30pm. 1650 Mountain
Blvd., Oakland. Tix/info: Blvd., 0akland. Tix/info: (510) 339-1832.

Temple Emanu-El

American Bach Soloists pre-sent Handel's rarely per-formed oratorio Esther. Fea-turing Music Director Jeffrey Thomas leading an interna-tional cast of soloists, includ-ing Catherine Bott in the title role, the ever-menacing role, the ever-menacing (sounding) David Thomas as

the evil Haman, countertenor Daniel Taylor as an Israelite Priest, Nils Brown as King Ahasuerus, Jennifer Ellis as an Israelite woman, and Sean Fallen (making his ABS debut) as Mordecai. The plot of Esther is the story of of Esther is the story of of Esther is the story of Purim. The day before Purim is a day of fasting, in memory of Esther's fast to atone for whatever wrongs of action, speech or thought the Jews speech or thought the Jews may have committed. The fast is followed by two days of dancing, merrymaking, feasting and gladness. \$20, \$29 & \$37. 8pm. Tix/info: 621-7900; www.americanbach.org

St. John's Presbyterian Church,

Presbyterian Church, Berkeley
The San Francisco Early
Music Society presents the
renowned early music ensemble Fortune's Wheel in 'Mirie
It Is!' — Musical Flowering
in Chaucer's England. This
distinguished medieval ensemble will explore one of the
loveliest and rarest bodies of
music, that of the 13th- and
14th-century England. So
small is the surviving body of
vernacular English song of
this period that the SFEMS
concert will include almost all concert will include almost all of what still exists with both music and text. \$22 (\$19 members/seniors). 8pm. Tix/info: (510) 528-1725; www.sfems.org

Ellard Hall, MHRC Ellard Hall, MHRC Living Sober presents "Drag Bingo!" Win hundreds of dol-lars in cash prizes. Drag en-couraged (you know you want to). Preceded at 8pm by AA/NA meeting; games at 9pm. \$10 donation (NO-TAFLOF). Most Holy Re-deemer Church, 100 Diamond St. (at 18th St.).

SF Hiking Club

Join other outdoors lovers for a Point Pinole stroll. Enjoy vast views fromt he shores of vast views fromt ne snores of San Pablo Bay that include Mt. Tam and Marin. It's a leisurely 7-mile hike with a 200-ft. elevation gain. Meet 10am at the bottom of the Rockridge BARt station esca-lator. Club info: 487-6410; w.sfhiking.com

848 Community Space
"848's 10th Anniversary Celebration." Tonight is "ProSew" night, with Thea Hillman (poet and slam chant hero in the emerging intersex community), Carol Queen (noted sexologist and ritualist), Patrick Califia (essayist, novelist documenting the sexual cultures of gay men, lesblans, transgenders and SM practitioners), Keith Hennessy (dancer/performance artist currently working with CahinCaha, cirque bătard in France, and directing Circo
Zero in SF), Matthew Simmons (aka Peggy L'eggs) avant-cabaret drag superstar), and the Art of Annie Sprinkle, S10-S20 (NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 848 Divisadero St. (at McAllister). Tix/infc; 922-2385.

Xenodrome 848 Community Space

Xenodrome

Xenodrome
Debauchery livedykesextheater joins forces with fuckingmachines.com to bring you "Garden of Fucking Delight," a theatrical/sex performance by and for Women, featuring haunting choreography, sexy women, and 350 RPMs of penetrating machinery. Audible titillation by Androgynous Androids, 3rd Arm and DVD of Tekrah. Creator Randen-Trixie TrashinaCann takes you on a journey to the land of Never Never Man, where the Gender-Defant Dykes for Fagdom reside. Only women and FTMs admitted. \$25 advance at Madame S (321 7th St. at Folsom); \$30 door. Prices include open bar.
Doors open 8pm; show at Doors open 8pm; show at 9pm. 1320 Potrero Ave. (at

Artists' Television Access

Television Access
World premiere screening and
artists' reception: "Kracked,"
a new narrative documentary
produced by TILT with the
Castro Movie Making Project,
Nearly two years in the making, "Kracked" follows the
lives of a handful of Castro
street youth who come together to make a movie that looks
into the lives of resourceful
street kids, Sponsored by the
SF Arts Commission Cultural
Equity Fund. \$4, 7:30pm.
992 Valencia St. Tix/info:
824-3890; www.atasite.org
848 Community Space

848 Community Space
"848's 10th Anniversary Celebration." Tonight is "Free
Expression" night, with Scott
Wells & Co. (local all-star of
raw physicality and choreographic grace; his recent One
Fell Swoop merged dancers
with skateboards at Theater
Artaud), Jules Beckman (musician, dancer, circus artist
now with Cahin-Cahia, based
in France), Joanna Moody
(New Zealand born
singer/songwriter), Sten Rudstrøm (performer/director
specializing in improv & Action Theater; lives in Berlin &
SF), Hagen & Simone
(dancers Kevin Clarke and
Monique Jenkinson), K. Ruby
(artist, teacher, healer, mask
maker, co-founder of Wise
Fool Puppet Intervention)
and surprise guests. \$10-\$20
(NOTAFLOF). 8pm. 848 Divisadero St. (at McAllister).
Tix/info: 922-2385.
The Black Box, 848 Community Space

The Black Box, **O**akland

The Black Box presents "A The Black Box presents "A Multimedia Sound Temple," an evening of Kirtan Chanting featuring world-class musi-cian and singer from Chennai, South India Russill Paul and South India Russill Paul and friends. It's a ritual (Puja) honoring the Goddess of Chant, Saraswati, featuring trance dance, deep meditation, Shakti Mantras, and more. The space will be turned into a Sacred Temple of Light and Sound," with visuals by the Sacred Technology Project. Chant yourself into states of ecstasy. Chai & Indian snacks served. \$12 adv.; \$15 door. Doors open 6:30pm; performance at 7pm. 1928 Telegraph Ave. (1 blk. from 19th St. BART). Info: (510) 451-1932; www.black-boxakland.com; www.tussillboxoakland.com; www.russillpaul.com

First Congregational

Church, Berkeley American Bach Soloists pre-sent Handel's oratorio Esther (see Sat. listing for Temple Emanu-El). \$20, \$29 & \$37. 7:30pm. Tix/info: 621-7900; www.americanbach.org

St. Gregory

St. Gregory
Nyssen Church
The San Francisco Early
Music Society presents the
renowned early music ensemble Fortune's Wheel in "Mirie
It Is!" — Musical Flowering
in Chaucer's England (see
Sat. listing for St. John's
Presbyterian Church), \$22
(\$19 members/seniors). 4pm.
Tix/info: (\$10) 528-1725;
www.sfems.org www.sfems.org

The Plush Room

Jazz vocalist Opie Bellas leads off "A Month of Sun leads off "A Month of Sun-days," a series featuring dif-ferent Bay Area cabaret/jazz performers each Sunday evening. Planist Udolf accom-panies Bellas, who has ap-peared to great acclaim at both the Plush Room and Danny's Skylight Room in New York. \$20. Two-drink minimum. Doors open 7pm, show at 7:30pm. The York Hotel, 940 Sutter St. Tix/info: 885-2800.





Host Steve Murray and star Peggy L'eggs do Viva Variety! at Bayfront Theatre. See Tuesday.

Mon

Palace of Fine Arts

The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus presents "Giving Back! Tomorrow's Child," a musical tribute to the youth in our lives, benefitting Larkin Street Youth Services, the Lavender Youth Recreation & Information Center (LYRIC), and the Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network. Starring renowned stage and screen actress/singer Carol Channing and the SFGMC, plus special guest stars Sharon McNight, Wilson Cruz, Kim Kuzma, Allyson Larkin, Richard Skipper, the cast of "Tapestry," and the Barbary Coast Cloggers. Dedicated to all of the Bay Area's youth who are meeting the The San Francisco Gay Men's icated to all of the Bay Area's youth who are meeting the challenges of HIV/AIDS, homelessness, childhood disease, gender identity/expression, sexual orientation, discrimination, addiction and other life challenges. 8pm. \$50 gen'l adm.; \$75 priority seating; \$100 pre-reception & priority seating. All invited to post-concert reception. Tix/info: 865-3650; www.sfgmc.org www.sfgmc.org

848 Community Space "QComedy Showcase," Mon-day Night Gay Comedy this day Night Gay Comedy this week hosted by Regina Stoops, with Lisa Geduldig, John Doyle, Heather Gold, Dana Cory, Bob Douglas, Jeff Krysler, and Bridget Schwartz. \$8.830pm. 848 Divisadero St..Info: 541-5610; www.QComedy.com

16

Bayfront Theatre, Fort

Make It So" Productions presents "Viva Variety 23," hosted by Steve Murray, who is staking a claim as the gay Ed Sullivan of the Bay Area. Featuring singer/songwriter Katharine Chase, T-Ruth of Cregangele, Valocity Circus Gregangelo Velocity Circus, comic actor P.A. Cooley, poet James Keller, VV regular
Peggy L'Eggs, singer/songwriter Mark Weigle, magician Robert Strong, the Barbary Coast Cloggers, comic
Janis Lipton, and performance chameleon Matthew
Martin with his special tribute to Peggy Lee. Tonight's
show is a benefit for Laughingstock, S20. 8pm. Tix/info:
863-0741, ext. 2;
www.makeltsoproductions.org



El Rio

EI RIO
For one night only, EI Rio
will host a comedy benefit for
the Kindergarten class of the
Creative Arts Charter School.
Old and new comedians. \$10\$20. 8-11pm (doors open
7pm). 3158 Mission St.

Intersection

Intersection
Opening reception: "The People's Plan," an eight-week, interactive, multi-dimensional forum organized by the San Francisco Print Collective (SFPC) and The Mission Antipolacement Coalition, People who live, work or play in the Mission will create a detailed planning document that the Mission will create a de-tailed planning document that will eventually be presented to the City's planning dept. They'll focus their forum around a large three-dimen-sional map of the Mission District and dozens of graphic posters created by SFPC's vi-sual activists. 6-9pm. 446 Valencia st. (btwn 15th & 16th), Info: 626-2787.

National Radio

Project, Oakland "Open house and fundraising party for the National Radio Project," featuring a talk by renowned journalist/author David Barsamian, poetry, live music, and a DJ dance party. From 5 to 7pm watch Barsamian and NRP crew Barsamian and NRP crew demonstrate radio production (free). From 7 tb10pm, a benefit reading and party will take place, with Barsamian discussing his latest book, The Decline and Fall of Public Broadcasting, plus spokenword artists and musicians (including Company of Including Company of (including Company of

Prophets), and a DJ dance party to follow at the Black Box (1920 Telegraph Ave., two doors down from NPR). 57-\$70 sliding. Full-door donations before 10pm benefit NRP. Wheelchair accessible.1916 Telegraph Ave., Oakland. Info: Laura Livoti, 510-251-1332 ext. 101

The Great American Music Hall

Music Hall
Album release concert: Hot on the heels of the success of Roulette, Violet Indiana (ex-Cocteau Twin Robin Guthrle and ex-Mono Siobhan De Mare) return with Casino, a collection of 1.2 tracks previously unavailable in the U.S. The album, to be released Feb. 26 on the Instinct label, continues the Violet Indiana tradition of glacial guitars, and smoky vocals, and adds and smoky vocals, and adds haunting narratives and inno-vative guitar work. \$15 Seat-ed show. 8 pm/7 Doors. 859 O'Farrell St

Art's Coffee Shop

"Castro Comedy Club," host-ed by Bob Douglas. A differ-ent line-up each week. Dona-tion. 8pm. 138 Church St. (near Market St.). Info: 951-2448

Dance Mission Theater Dance Mission Theater Zeltzman and Colburn present "The Stomach Never Lies: True Confessions and Moving Images." Long-time collaborators Selene Colburn and Dominique Zeltzman join forces with guest artists Remy Charlip and Kathleen Hermsdorf to tell you the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth in an evening of performance works featuring fearless motion, aching confessionals, and projected images. Through their art they ask the audience to bear witness to personal revelations ask the audience to Dear Wit-mess to personal revelations — embarrassing, poignant, painful, and funny, \$15. Thu, Fri., Sat., and Sun., Februar 28-March 3. 8pm. 3316 -24th Street (at Mission St.). Tix/info: 273-4633.

Castro Theatre

Castro Theatre
Opening night: Sandi Simcha
Dubowski's controversial documentary Trembling Before
G-D, a complex look at faith,
homosexuality and Orthodox
Judaism. Shot over five years
and featuring interviews with
gay Orthodox Jews, the film
captures a group of people
who face a profound dilemma:
how to reconcile their love of
Judaism and the clear-cut
Biblical prohibition that forbids homosexuality. Winner Biblical prohibition that for-bids homosexuality. Winner of the Teddy Award for Best Documentary at the Berlin Film Festival. Events related to the controversial film will be happening through March 5 at various locations. Show-times Dality 7.8. times: Daily: 7 & 9:10pm/Sat., Sun. & Wed.: 12:30, 2:40, 4:50, 7 & 9:10pm. Thru March 14.

Ellard Hall, MHRC

Ellard Hall, MHRC
Post-film event: 'An Intimate
Conversation with Filmmaker
Sandi Dubowski and Cast
Members of Trembling Before
G-D." Moderated by Peter L.
Stein, Filmmaker and Deputy
director of Programming, The
Magnes Museum. Co-sponsored by the Gay And Lesbian
Alliance and Tzavta (the
Young Adults Division of the
Israel Center) of the Jewish
Community Federation of SF,
the Peninsula, Marin and
Sonoma counties. \$5-\$10 donation (NOTAFLOF). 8:3010pm. 100 Diamond St. (at
18th St.). Info: 227-4510.

WANNA SUBMIT?

Send your calendar event listings to:

Mark Mardon Out & About Bay Area Reporter 395 Ninth Street San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Friday before issue date.









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Cheers sweep Chicago and San Francisco

by Mister Marcus

one can be everywhere at once, which is where I wanted to be last weekend, when the leather scene was hopping from Chicago to LA. A plethora of awards and a few coveted titles were handed out at major contests. Due to a longstanding commitment to judge the Mr. Cell Block Leather 2002 contest in Chicago, I was unable to be here Friday for the Mr. Pow-erhouse 2002 contest, the Inter-Club Fund Motorcycle Awards on Saturday night, or the Interna-tional Mr. Bear contest on Sun-

day.

And while I was in Chicago to

Call Block 2002 index the Mr. Cell Block 2002 contest, my duties in connection with that task precluded my attendance at the Pantheon of Leather Awards ceremony on Saturday of terricos. urday afternoon.

But not to worry! My faithful "stringers" were all over the place and the overall view is here for your reading pleasure. Well, almost overall. Alas, at my deadline, my trusty stringers had yet to bring me word on the results of the Mr. Sisters Leather competition at the Gauntlet II in Los



Last week kicked off leatherwise with the Mr. Edge Leather 2002 contest on Wednesday, Febgave a cogent and thankful stepping ruary 13. Eric Bernier thankful stepping aside speech, and three contestants then vied

contestants then vied to succeed him: Richard Lindeman, Mike Moorefield and Scott Brogan.
Judges Andre English, Jim Gatteau and Eric himself had no easy task, with three feisty men going through the paces. T.J. Ist-van was absolutely flawless as the master of ceremonies. Tons of master of ceremonies. Tons of money were raised via the auction and raffles. Snatch and Sheba wowed the audience with their

musical renditions.
When it was all over, 2002 Bare Chest Calendar man (Mr. January) Scott Brogan prevailed, and will represent that bar at the Mr. San Francisco Leather contest on March 8. Good job, everyone!

Raynaldo Garcia was chosen Mr world-famous bar last Saturday,

Mr. Powerhouse Leather

On Friday night, February 15, only one man stepped forth to compete for the Mr. Powerhouse Leather 2002 contest. The lack of enthusiasm for leather titles in San Francisco seems to be on-

San Francisco seems to be ongoing. It's a shame for a city
with such a large leather
population. Nevertheless, somebody has to do
it, and so Adam Heller
put himself on the line
and faced judges Rob
Esmond, Keith Truitt,
Ed Morgan Kat Ed Morgan, Kat Matthews and Robert Davolt. He had to

Davoit. He had to earn a big percentage of the available points and apparently passed with flying colors to be named Mr. Powerhouse Leather 2002. Heller advances to the Mr. San Francisco Leather contest on March 8.

Chicago, that toddling town

I swooped into chilly Chicago on Friday morning, February 15. As usual, the highly efficient Cell Block manager David Boyer managed to have all the judges arrive within ten minutes of each other, so Thom Dorphkowski, Int. Mr. so Thom Dombkowski, Intl. Mr. Deaf Leather Spo, former Cell Block manager Patti Brown, and

outgoing Mr. Cell Block Marc Rosenberg and I all piled into a cab and headed for the Windy

On Friday night, the town was already jumping and jivey as delegates and nominees for the Pantheon of Leather Awards were causing a stir with their leathery

accoutrements at O'Hare Airport.
The meet-and-greet on Friday
night was jammed to the rafters as night was jammed to the ratters as the six contestants were introduced: John Palumbo, Eric Leonard, Ken Abbrucci, Jr., Raynaldo Garcia, Richard Tinerella and Doug Sherwood. Frank Nowicki handily made the whole thing run smooth.

The winners and losers of the

The winners and losers of the Pantheon Awards gathered at the Cell Block on Saturday night for a wall-to-wall crowd that cheered lustily. To their immense pleasure, the contestants who went through

the contestants who went through their paces, presenting leather image, speeches, and jock attire, and answering hard question.

Interspersed throughout were the presentations of awards to local activists. Marc Rosenberg's stepping aside speech, barely six minutes long, was a lively rundown on his year with the title, which her termed the "greatest learning experience of my life."

It was almost 2330 when tally master Bill Stadt brought the results to the stage. The second run-

sults to the stage. The second run-ner-up was announded: Rich Tinerella; the first runner-up was

Tinerella; the first runner-up was Doug Sherwood. The winner and Mr. Cell Block/Male Hide Leathers 2002, is Raynaldo Garcia, a huge man with a winning smile and a personality to match.

The bar erupted in bedlam as he was announced the winner, and his leather vest was presented as the crowd cheered lustily. It was another stirring manifestation of Chicago's leather pride. Mr. Garcia will advance to compete at IML 2002 in May.

At the Pantheon Awards in

At the Pantheon Awards in Chicago, Former IMsL. Jo Blas and her significant other, Ms. World Leather Annie Romano, swept the awards in some four cat-egories including Woman of the Year (Jo) and Community Choice Woman, and Couple of the Year. The Ms. World Leather 2001 contest won for Large Event of the Year. Our own Peter Fiske won the Lifetime Achievement Award, and

next page

EVENTURES IN LEATHER

Thursday, February 21

Mr. April 2003 will be chosen at the Powerhouse at 2130 tonight by judges J.J. Ferra, Omar Moseley and Jerry Roberts. Win fame and \$100 if you can convince them you should be Mr. April.

Weekend, February 22-24

The 15 Association's anniversary weekend, with a banquet at the Fort Mason Officer's Club on Friday

and quality play parties on Sat, and Sun. Call 673-0452 for invite and location. Northern Decadence in Portland, Oregon all this weekend, with action at CC Slaughters, PDX Eagle, Club Xes, sponsored by that hunky Mr. Ore-gon State Leather Rob Hathaway.

Friday, February 22

The Los Angeles Boys of Leather "boy" auction (for services) at the Gauntlet II at 2100 tonight, emcee'd by Robert Blackmon \$3 door charge. For more info, click on www.Gautlletii.com, The dynamic Jo Carol headlines "Assembly," a

Mark Leno campaign benefit at Club Townsend

from 2200-0200, for a mere \$12. Lots of talent onstage

Saturday, February 23

Mr. Cleveland Leather 2002 contest tonight when Dennis McMahon steps aside for a successor and Mr. Bear Ventura Leather Bear at Paddy's in Ventura. The 15 Association Play Party, and a \$50 cash prize for the winner of arm wrestling at the Eagle Tavern, from 1600-1900, with bragging rights authorized if you win.

Wednesday, February 27

It's Leather Buddies at 933 Harrison tonight. You know the rules: no sneakers, no cologne, o.d. on "butch" pills and remember: no cologne, no underarm crap, wear boots, leather, rubber, uniforms and man scent.

Thursday, Febrary 28

Mr. May 2003 for the Bare Chest Calendar is up for grabs. Can you handle body worship, selling calendars, traveling and raising money for the AEF and Positive Resources? This job is for you!

Crowning the new royals

by Sweet Lips

ragapaloozal" — that's one word to describe this busy Coronation weekend, as all the campaigning and Imperial Court activity culminate at the big event, taking place Saturday night at the Galleria.

Emperso Chablis and Emperor Tom Bash had a wonderful year making many presentations around the country. They'll pass their crowns to a new ruling couple, ruling couple, and legions of lords and ladies **Cocktail Hour**

of the court will be on hand to ap

Why have I not run for Empress? you ask. Well, I happen to be Empress of Alcatraz and Emperor of Puerto Vallarta — so there!

there!

Club Rendez-Vous (1312 Polk St., at Bush) will be hosting a condensed Coronation on Saturday from noon on, when SF Emperor XVI Steven Rascher hosts the "Portland Party," a fundraiser for the Rose Court's Scholarship Fund. The 15th Annual Crowning of the Emperor & Empress of Al-

catraz will take place. I'll be there serving drinks, including my cocktail specialty, "The Mame Mimosa." That culinary genius Dennis Tyler will be doing the catering. Come help David, James, yours truly and the Rendez-Vous staff welcome Empress XIV Poison Marie Waters and Emperor XXVIII Shelley.

Emperor Rascher is also hosting a Monarch's Anniversary Party on the 22nd from 5 n. to 8 p.m., also at Club Rendez-Vous. Don't miss the Alaska Party at

Alaska Party at Marlena's on Sunday, Febru-ary 24 at 3 p.m. This is a fabulous, crazy affair not

One more note about a Coronation-related event: If you have never been to the cemetery in Colma with Grand Mere Jose Sarria — the first to crown herself Empress of Sf; etc. — then don't miss the chance while she's still alive and kickin' (she ain't getting any younger). Her grave is already reserved and dug, with a finally corrected headstone. I am talking, of course, about the annual "Mourning After," the Coronation trip that has become a world-One more note about a Coro-



Mourning has broken: Jose Sarria

renowned event.

Buses to the gravesite will leave Buses to the gravesite will leave from and return to Marlena's and Club Rendez-Vous. La Lips won't be there as I don't want to get blamed for pushing Jose in (the feud continues; I am still the older; she's a week younger; but if wa're the two oldest queers in SF. we're the two oldest queens in SF,

what's the point?).
Finally, I don't usually do politics, but this time around I urge everyone to vote for Mark Leno, a good man.

a taste of leather SoMa Store: 1285 Folsom Street (415) 252-9166 2370 Market Street (415) 552-4500 atasteofleather.com



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MTT on 3 CDs

◆ page 32

tion." It makes an arc of dramatition." It makes an arc of dramatically sensible music and a satisfying sketch of the composer's philosophy. As a document of the event and for pure listening, RCA Victor was brave and wise to go ahead with the project. Whether they proceed with their commitment to the contract with the Symphony may well depend on the reception of this disc. From an artisection of this disc. From an artise ception of this disc. From an artistic standpoint, it is a major hit.

Stravinsky, Cage & Reich Works for Pianos, Prepared Pi-anos & Electric Organs anos & Electric Organs — Michael Tilson Thomas, Ralph Grierson, pianos & organs; Roger Kellaway, Steve Reich, electric or-gans; Tony Raney, maracas (Angel Records/Angel Artistry)

This new compilation and digital remastering of two LPs dating from 1972 and '73 comes as a happy surprise. It also reminds us that Michael Tilson Thomas is one helluva keyboardist.

one helluva keyboardist.

The main event back then was the premiere recording of Stravinsky's own reduction for two pianos of his epochal "The Rite of Spring." It still sounds amazing and persuasive, even with some barely noticeable distortion unavoidably retained from the original analog master targes. The persuasive production of the production of th inal analog master tapes. The per formance remains breathtaking.

What really stands out now is Steve Reich's comparably ground-breaking "Four Organs." Call it monotonous or mesmerizing, catchy or annoying, it stands with Terry Riley's "In C" as one of the earliest masterpieces of minimalism. Hearing this definitive rendition brings back some of the joyful shock we felt when it was new. Sandwiched in-between these two monuments is John Cage's

two monuments is John Cage's "Three Dances" from the mid-'40s. Three Dances' from the mid-40s. The prepared pianos sound like American gamelan, with maracas adding rhythmic interest. The whole disc sounds of a piece and, at a generous 80 minutes of playing time, it is a beguiling experience.

Gustav Mahler – Symphony No. 6, San Francisco Symphony Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor

Michael Tilson Thomas, conductor (SFS Media Recordings)
Recorded live in concerts at Davies Symphony Hall September 12-15, 2001, immediately following the horrific attack on the WTC, this document — the first on the Symphony's own label — may re-open some old wounds.
For those who experienced these performances first-hand, it does come as a powerful reminder

does come as a powerful reminder of the shock and dismay we felt. Still, just as it provided catharsis then, this magnificent rendition also gives solace today.

The searing briskness and heartbreaking courage of MTT's interpretation brought out the

virtuosity of his players, captured with overwhelming clarity. It's been a long time since anyone timidly suggested that the San Francisco orchestra was worldrecording augers well for the pro-jected series of all nine Mahler symphonies.

Available at all retailers, in-

Available at all retailers, including the SFS Store and the SFS new on-line store, shopssymphony.org, the recordings will be distributed in North America by Delos Records. Avante will market and release in Europe.

Too bad Thomas Hampson and tenor Michael Schade won't be able to recreate their recent triumph in Das Lied von der Erde for the series. They have both recorded the work separately before and,

ed the work separately before and, while it is arguably the real Ninth Symphony, Das Lied probably isn't on the agenda. Considering MTT's profound involvement with Mahler, however, SFS Media chauld true comparing the separation of the separation should try to commit everything

to disc.

The Sixth is a problematic work, and it doesn't provide easy answers. Hearing this recording and remembering how curiously fateful it seemed back in September, and how illuminating was the conductor's vision, the debut disc in the Mahler cycle proves how perfectly MTT fits in with San Francisco and the musical world at large.

Mister Marcus

previous page

Ed Moore of Washington, D.C. was voted Man of the Year. The President's Award was a two-way tie among Peter Manson, Mama Reinhardt and Bob "Puppy" Pedder. Except for Peter Fiske, San Exprise your added on the Manson of the Puppy of Peter Priske, San Exprise your added on the Manson of the Puppy of the Pupping of the Pup der. Except for Peter Fiske, San Francisco was edged out in all categories including the Western Region, which was won by George Wong of the Avatar Club in Los Angeles. A complete list of the winners is forthcoming, but congratulations to all who were nominated and those who won. inated and those who won.

Motorcycle awards

While all this was going on (give or take an hour or two due to (give or take an hour or two due to the time zone difference), the bike clubs of the SF Bay Area, along with leather title holders, various royal heads, and friends of all three gathered in the auditorium of Most Holy Redeemer Church for a scrumptious dinner, and to learn the results of voting that had been in progress for the last several weeks. From all reports, it was a scintillating evening.

I am honored and thankful to receive a lifetime achievement award, and heartily regret not being there to accept in person. The ICF scored an-

accept in person. The ICF scored an-

other triumph, and Tommy Thomas's leadership stands out in utter splendor for all the clubs.
Yes, it was a busy week and a busier weekend, with good results, so now everyone can rest for a while. Never fear, though: There's more coming, and you will no doubt be involved.
Finally, on a well-groomed

Finally, on a well-groomed note, former IML Joe Gallagher has reached a fork in the road and is now gainfully employed as a barber. If you want a manly look and styling, check him out at Pasha's Barber Shop at 4147 - 18th St. (at Collingwood). He's for those who want a butch barber.

Discovering the gay past

by Bob Roehr

The Evening Crowd at Kirmser's: A Gay Life in the 1940s, by Ri-cardo J. Brown; University of Minnesota Press, \$21.95.

hey were small and dark, reeking of Lucky Strikes and spilt beer. Often the liquor was watered and the prices no bargain. Every time the front door creaked open, heads would swivel toward it with a mix of hope and fear to see who was entering — a known friend, someone who might reveal their secret, toughs looking for a fight, or the cops to harass or shake them down.

Yet despite these faults, a gay bar, then as now, was the center of the community. Often it was the the community. Often it was the only place that gay men and women could go to socialize with one another and let their guard down, if only slightly, in a hostile world. And even that space was generally shared; straight by day, tolerating gays only after their other customers had gone home. It might have been owned by the

other customers had gone home. It might have been owned by the mob, or paid tribute to them, or to the cops, or to both.

The Evening Crowd at Kirmser's offers a snapshot of what gay life was like in the 1940s in a mid-sized city that was more tolerant than many, but still highly constricting. Ricardo J. Brown offers this memoir of coming of offers this memoir of coming of age in small-town Minnesota and the reality of coming out in St. Paul after being discharged from the Navy during World War II for

being gay.

One is struck both by the



The gay bar was an early form of queer community center

sameness of life then and now, and by its differences. The quests for love and sex, not necessarily in that order, are perennial issues for men and women. Those biologi-cal drives persist, and the ways that they play out over the years are little more than changes in sets and costumes.

Price paid

What has changed most dra-matically is the price paid for vio-lating society's taboo of being gay. lating society's taboo of being gay. While some people still are fired when their employer learns that they are gay, and some families still do shun their own, today those incidents have become noteworthy as the exceptions. Such action was the rule in the 1940s. Tolerance, if not quite acceptance, was the surprise.

This framework of fear was largely self-imposed, enforced sporadically and randomly

sporadically and randomly enough by the minions of society that nervous uncertainty loomed large in the daily lives of most gays

and lesbians. Still, many found a way to mute their anxiety and find a sense of community among the booths and barstools of places like Kirmser's.

Theirs is a lesson made more

Theirs is a lesson made more poignant in the aftermath of the terrorist attacks of September 11, as we struggle to regain a life considered normal. They show us that life continues and can be good, even after the deepest shock. Often survival is its own reward. reward.

Brown's memoir is quick, compelling prose that reflects his career as a journalist. He knows how to tell a story, yet he also understands that he is writing to connote a sense of time and place, not merely advance a story line. His players are limned in full, rounded form worthy of the best fiction. He has an eye for detail without getting lost in it. And he balances the sensational with the mundane. It is a charming, engaging, and quick read that leaves you satisfied. \blacksquare

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All about humanity



ow in its second year in the Bay Area, the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival screens nine films, Feb. 22-24, at the Pacific Film Archive in Berkeley. The festival opens with Missing Young Woman, winner of the Special Jury Prize at Sundance, in which Bay Area filmmaker Lourdes Portillo investigates why over 200 young women have disappeared from the streets of Juaraz, Mexico since 1994.

Juaraz, Mexico since 1994.

Q & A sessions with filmmakers follow many screenings. Films include Ralph Bunche: An American Odyssey, Nazareth 2000, Jung (War): In the Land of the Mujaheddin, Detained, and (pictured) Promises, in which seven Israeli and Palestinian children offer their take on the Middle East conflict. Tickets are \$7. For more information, go to the Festival website at www.hrw.org/iff. ▼

Hit men

by Gregg Shapiro

ongs for the Front Row: The Best of Ocean Colour Scene
(Ark 21) compiles 17 of
British blues/pop-rockers Ocean
Colour Scene's best tunes: singles,
a 1997 live version (Royal Albert
Hall!) of "Robin Hood," band Hall!) of "Robin Hood," band picks, and a catchy new song, "Crazy Lowdown Ways." Simon Fowler, the openly gay lead singer, infuses these '90s tunes with a '60s Beatlesesque energy that gives them a timeless quality. This compilation was my first introduction to this band that got lost in the Blur of the Oasis. shuffle, and after hearings songs such as "The Circle" (which features Paul Weller), "Better Day," and "Huckleberry Grove," I'm sure I'll let them wash over me again. over me again.

Used Songs: 1973-1980 (Rhino/Elektra) is a good 16-track collection of Tom Waits' early years collection of Tom Waits' early years that should have been great. The perfect Anthology of Tom Waits, recleased in 1985 and never issued domestically on CD, is a superior compilation. Used Songs does include "A Sight For Sore Eyes," "Burma Shave," and "I Never Talk to Strangers" (a 1977 duet with Bette Midler). It also includes the melancholy "Christmas Card from a Hooker in Minneapolis."

Anything Anytime Anywhere:

Anything Anytime Anywhere: Singles 1979-2002 (Rounder/True North) by Bruce Cockburn is an expansive greatest hits collection

by the Canadian singer/songby the Canadian singer/song-writer, and worth owning. Two new songs, "My Beat" (backing vocals by Patty Griffin) and the title track, bracket beloved Cock-burn tunes such as "Wondering Where the Lions Are" (from 1979) and "If I Had a Rocket Launcher" (from his best-selling 1984 album Stealing Fire), and "Last Night of the World" (from his most recent studio album Breakfast in New Orleans, Dinner in Timbuktu).

The Essential Neil Diamond (Columbia), a 38-track, double-

The Essential Neil Diamond (Columbia), a 38-track, double-disc collection, features studio and live recordings from Diamond's lengthy career. Diamond is renowned for his concert performances, so almost a quarter of the tracks here are live recordings, many of which were recorded as recently as October 2001. The studio recordings span 35 years, from "Solitary Man" and "Cherry, Cherry" (1966) to "You Are the Best Part of Me" (2001). Diamond's popularity recently surged because

Part of Me" (2001). Diamond's popularity recently surged because of the inclusion of his song "I'm a Believer," as performed by Smash Mouth, in the movie Shrek.

The Very Best of David Wilcox (A&M) draws its material from the three albums (and a couple of promotional EPs) that Wilcox recorded for the A&M label from 1889-94. One of the most sincere voices on the folk scene, Wilcox is also an underrated songwriter, also an underrated songwriter, which is obvious from tracks such as "Language of the Heart," "New World," and "Farthest Shore." ▼



Gay Comics #24

Carol Channing

◄ page 28

San Francisco," she said. "I always told Herb Caen I want my ashes spread out over the Golden Gate Bridge — but then he died before

me."

If for only one night, it's nice
to have Carol Channing back
where she belongs.
San Francisco Gay Men's Chorrus, with special guest star Carol
Channing, perform in Giving
Back: Tomorrow's Child, a benefit
for Carl beginning of Strick Letter. for Gay Lesbian and Straight Edu-cation Network, Larkin Street

Youth Services, and Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center. The concert features the Barbary Coast Cloggers, Wilson Cruz, Kim Kuzma, Allyson Larkin, Sharon McNight, Richard Skipper, the cast of *Tapestry*, and other special guests. Curtain is at 8 p.m., Monday, February 25 at the Palace of Fine Arts Theatre, 3301 Lyon St. Tickets are \$100 pri 3301 Lyon St. Tickets are \$100 priority seating (and 7 p.m. pre-reception), \$75 priority seating, and \$50 general seating. ▼

Tickets and information: (415) 865-3650, or www.sfgmc.org



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PARTING GLANCES

Scott! Outback At Steamworks
You came to my room. You, big dark eyes
brown hair, huge dimples, handsome as
hell!!. What a soul. Your a Hard-One to
forget. Gregs here to love you! 22 71489

1/22 J Church-- Troy on 24th
Now I'm jumping up and down cause I
didn't get your number. Overwhelmed by
your looks, I couldn't think straight, let
alone have a coherent conversation. Try
again? Justin.

71490

Capp's Corner Cafe I was with one man and two young ladies-you with older man. Can't stop thinking of you. Get in touch. 12 71491

Saw You On the 19 Polk
Navy Blue suit, 35, 5'4", brown hair, got,
haunting eyes. Our eyes met, I knew we
should be topether. That was January
1998. Happy Valentines Day! P.S. do you
have my Della CD? Cha cha cha... 62
71515

71515
"Scott- Italian Guy!"
"Hore are you? We had such a great
"Hore are you? We had such a great
and I am mad about time. I still love you and I am m you. Call. I am Jay. **2** 71532

Write the rest of your ad here,

Dangerous Arab Muni #49, Tues, Jan 29th, 7:30pm. I was struggling with green suitcase. You got off at 16th. We smiled said goodnight.

↑ 1516

Bryan- Nevada Plates
Saw you @ Market/Castro- great to see
you again. Lost your email, old phone info
now inaccurate. Respond to ad or, I
haven't moved. *Smooth* Craig. 12
71531

To My Baby "Grilla"
Thank you for 8 wonderful years. I will love you for ever'n ever and ever, love The Big Girl. 12 71534

Spikes Coffee Shop Wed. Jan 30
You have blond hair, beautiful blue eyes, a great smile. Unforgettable. You said hello, asked how I was, waited, but left be-fore I got my coffee. Let's meet. \$\Omega\$ 71533

Mans Hand Party Fri 2/8 rasked you about your t-shirt from Austin TX. Band; you saw, we dight's get to fool around but I would like to. Please give a call. 12 71535

SEEKING RELATIONSHIP

Nice Jewish Boy For Sex/Dating Speak softly but carry a big stick! 42 look nid 30's ad exec., 6'1", 180#, br/gr, clean-shaven, good look, own flat for naked massage, small hotels, hiking, art, nome-cooked meals. 12 71492

Very Handsome Guy ISO Hot Asian Gdlking, GWM, 38, 185, 6'1", looking for hot Asian muscle guy for friendship & hot fun. You be 21-35 & goodlooking too. New to area.

27 71496

"I Love Muscles!"
Hot slender in-shape GWM, educ prof.
36, 5'9", 140#, bru/grn, seeks very muscular man, any race. I'm fun, safe
HIVneg, u too pls. \$\sigma\$ 71495

"Change Your Life..."
GWM, 55, 5'8", 180, bm/bl, HIV-, seeks special friendship with bright and fun guy. Let's enjoy sharing, adventure, growth, happy times, and maybe even safe sex. Sound like fun? 22 71498

CuriosityGetsThisGWMEverytime.. It keeps this 50+y.o. young- 6', attractive, trim 170lbs, hw prop, vers, well-equipped, uncut. Dark blonde, educated, traveled professional, healthy poz. Curious? You're just a call away... 271536

GWM Seeks Cute Hairy GM Top 39, 612", 210#, 4/p hair, beard, attrac-tive, hairy, drink, smoke, HIV- bottom. Looking for an attractive, friendly, hairy, HIV- top guy to date, with It relationship as a goal. Interested?

71538

Affectionate Men
WLM 46, 6'165lbs, mod hry. ISO men
over 45 who enjoy lots of affection, kissing, & oral pleasures. Prefer liberal-minded, husky bearish-looking men not into the
gay scene or lifestyle. 12 71540

Experienced Sex Partner Needed Me goodlooking who's inexperienced wanting to learn oral anal from smooth clean shaven w/40 to 50's into butt licking oral expert who can gently turn me into bottom. 12 71542

"Seeks Topp Dad"
Lite GBM, 40's 5'9", 160, masculine, clean, HIV neg, prof. literate, trust worthy, sincere, eager to please, sexy. Get at me. 12 71541

Red Head SWM, 41, 5'10", 175#. Santa Rosa Na-tive, ex-Navy. Home owner. Enjoys drum-ming, talk radio & the outdoors. Seek fe-male. \$\square\$ 71517

Romantic Sensuous Man Seeks muscular male 40-55, HIV-neg. For dating in SF. Enjoy TV, cooking, working out, titplay. I'm man of color, 5'7", 150#, 40c, HIV-neg. NS, no anal. 12 71518

Attractive Masculine Cowboy! Easygoing goodhearted nice guy, mascu-line, muscular, intelligent, affectionate GWM seeks masculine in-shape top man with facial hair for friendship or possibly more. \$\Omega\$ 71543

GMM Seeks GMM For Love And... Adven. I am 25 seeking 20-29yr. old lover for religion, sex, love, adventure, partner-ship, no freaks or weirdos. I believe in God or a good higher power. I would some day love to have a lover, but not a must.

271494

Concert Partner, Friend, More? GWM, 32, 64°, bibl, handsome, intelli-gent, animal/nature lover. Enjoys classical music, mories, reading, conversation, hot, hot periodic programmers, and the con-tent of the content of the content of the dependable, easy going, affectionate, hon-est. 127, 71519

39 y.o. Latino Wants Romance 5'10", 165 looking for man in late 30's who is a romantic, responsible and willi to share quiet times movies, talks, dinne walks, lots of kisses & you know...

↑ 1497

Aggressive Bottom Wanted Couch potato grounded GWM profession 54, HIV-s/p hair, cut, smoker, shy top, fra/p looking for younger cut GWM for dating and more. 22 71493

Sad Boy In The Closet
Capricorn male, 40, 5'9", introvert, mature wise looking for the guy who would take care of him. \$\oldsymbol{\Omega}\$ 71537

How About A Little Bump & Grind GBM prof. to p50 seeking GWM bottom 48-60yrs for good hot sex on an ocassional or on going basis. Also open to some type of relationship but horny for now. Smk, drink, and aroma all good, Prefer you be somewhat stocky built, erijoy sexy underwear and nudity. No heavy beards. \$\overline{Q}\$ 71539

SEEKING **ADVENTURE**

Total Anal Bottom Bear 50, 195#, 5'10", hairy stocky Caucasis bear, want to lie on my belly get mount-ed/fuck by ass fucking top men. Any age/race. \$\to\$ 71499

"Please Sir, This Boy Kneels And..."
Begs to receive your training in sucking your cock Sir, boy is straight and seeks training to submit to Master. Am well trained in SM/BD and is a true masochist sir. Call with your orders. 12 71500

Love To Ride Big Cock White 39yr. old bald 5'8" 9"cock always White 34yr. Old bald 5'8" 9" Cock always "horny". You never had hot juicy hole until you have mine foreplay eating cock!
Any age and race, straight men ok. Don 271501

Sonoma County Body-Worship Love getting head? Being rimmed? Ad-mired or having your balls sucked while you jack off? I'm a middle-aged, generou healthy, fun GWM who loves giving plea sure to slender guys, 18-35. 22 71502

Seeking Total Top GWM, 44, 6'4", 185#, in-shape, clean shaven, hairy, fair-skinned, light brown hair, total bottom. Seeking sex, friend-ship, or Itr. Prefer Asian/ Latins. 120 71503

Slaveboy Sought
By WM prof, 50's 5'11". You are over
35, small/medium build, eager to please a
master, receive body/mind discipline in secure relationship. Fem. qualities desirable. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 71504

Erotic Rope Bondage
Expert bondage top, GWM, 43, 5'B",
160, lbs, athletic, HIV- seeks masculine
in-shape bottom, 21-40, for challenging
erotic bondage with gags, toys, light SM.
Trustworthy, discreet. Novice ok. SF/East
Bay. 22 71505

Bay. 12 71505

Mature Daddy- Master Seeks Boy 18-45, attr., submissive, for ongoing intimacy with his mid-70's gdlk'g mentor. Various scenes explored as mutually acceptable. Must be HIV-. 12 71506

Naked or Clothed
One of us is naked, one of us is clothed.
One orders, one obeys. We are both lean, masculine and safe. I'm 43 and you are younger or same age.

↑ 71522

Trim Asian Bottom Wanted
For hot heavy sex by built, attractive marculine jock. 6′, 160lbs, 48yo. Healthy
HIV+. I'm cuddly and strong. You're
trim, affectionate and healthy HIV+or -.

127 71524

Black Top seeks Hot Bottom Boyz 35, masculine 9"cut seeks Gay or Bi-sub-

Free Massage
After your sweaty workout or run. You be fit, white, 21-35 and love to get a rub. Evenings or weekends.

71526

You Kickback
I will service. Suck cock and balls. You be horned up and need to release. Call! 1271527

Nude Beach Naked Fun-Buddy 30-50 hit the local nude beaches this SrND, 30-50 hit the local nude beaches this Spring or have p.m. fun in E. Bay, S.F. GWHI 5'5" 135 br/br in shape HIV- Ub2.

Homo Hobo!!!

Homeless guy, hairy, smooth tight behind, hazel eyes, light skin, freckles, 12ee in sandals, chub, looking for safe fun, kicks, wide shoulders. © 71545

U/C Sonoma Co.

Or North Bay looking for u/c men to service. Me mature WM 60, 5'6", 145#, HIV-, moustache. You H/W prop. age not important. Foreskin A+.

71521

Asian Bottom Seeks Tops 5'10", 140, 30's, shaved head, kind, ser sual, aggressive, good kisser, nice and HIV-. ☑ 71546

Want to Service Latino or Black GWM enjoys servicing, Gay, Bi or Straight men. Kick back and enjoy. My place. 18 to 45 only. 2 71523

Cop Strip Search Amateur cop strips you naked and orders you around. Erotic role-play fun for tight bodied guys 20-40's. By in-shape WM 43. 22 71548

Shut Up And Ride
WM 37 5'10" 195lb blond/blue muscular
guy wants good looking masculine men to
screw, anytime and any place. \$\oldsymbol{\Omega}\$ 71549

Oral Top Needed For Pnp 3-Way
My top wants to see me sucked and fucked
by hot top. 2 fun loving party and play sex
pigs looking for week-end fun.
71552

FETISHES

I Need Your Vote!!! Yes, Yours!! For Bay Area's best cock sucker (Babcs!) my demo your meat entitles you both to privileges, you don't wanna miss. Pls call Asap.— You won't be sorry!

71507

Whipping Boy...
Older slim male is subject to fetishes; may be beaten, spanked etc. Can be sexually forced. Prefer solemn dignified setting. SF Bay. \$\mathbb{Q}\$ 71510

Bay, № 71510

In Search of Nip Pig Workout Buddy
47yr, old stocky 200# GWM, bm, bm,
salt & pepper goatee talt's & piercings
with huge eret injs. This pil j50 domin,
masc, muscular nip, "big bear daddy" to
share heavy nip work outs with growth in
mind! Smokers A++ pleasure. № 71511

Pervert Training & Development
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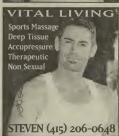


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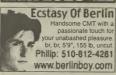
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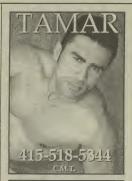
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НОТ WM BOOT BOTTOM ISO hot WM boot top for boot service and more. 408-295-1634

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J DRAGON - HOT Almost met at Folsom St. Fair; U signed photo for me. 60's. Travel a lot, keep trying. Dinner. U won't re-gret. 415-431-3479 Mess.

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HEPATITIS A&B...no big deal, right? Hausea so bad you want to die A month away from work. No appetite for weeks. No sex. No beet, no wine, no wodka. No gym. Stuck in the hospital fallow skin. Yellow ey ever. Chills. ind years later... ome liver damag maybe even deat

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ΑÎC

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